

INTERNATIONAL

Judge under armed guard after Bhopal relief verdict

BHOPAL, Dec 19, (UPI): The judge presiding over the Bhopal gas leak case has been placed under armed guard because an intruder entered his house and rummaged through papers in legal proceedings about the 1984 disaster, police said today.

Bhopal Inspector General of Police Arun Guria said officers were deployed at the residence of Judge M. W. Deo and the Bhopal District Court, where Deo on Thursday ordered Union Carbide Corp. to pay \$269 million as interim relief for gas victims.

"Some days ago, the judge informed us that somebody seems to have attempted to rummage through his papers in his absence," Guria said, specifying only that the incident took place "a week back" at Deo's home in an affluent suburb of Bhopal.

"Since the papers related to the case will have international significance, the police, without taking any chances, have posted plainclothes policemen around his residence and the court, to keep a round-the-clock vigil," Guria said.

Documents

Guria would not say which documents had been viewed and Deo refused to comment on the incident, that apparently took place during a lull in court hearings before Deo announced his decision on payment of interim relief.

About 2,850 people died and some 200,000 others were injured when on Dec 3, 1984, 40 tons of methyl isocyanate vapored and spewed from Union Carbide's now-defunct pesticide plant, in Bhopal, 600 kms south of New Delhi.

Under Deo's interim relief order, Union Carbide must deposit in the court within two months 3.5 billion rupees (\$269 million) to be distributed to gas victims as direct financial compensation and for health care and generation of employment.

The US-based multinational said Deo's order amounted to a verdict in its liability without a trial, but did not indicate whether it would appeal.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, which pushed a bill through parliament making it the sole legal representative for victims, claims Union Carbide's negligence caused the mishap.

Christmas moratorium announced

Aquino orders ceasefire

MANILA, Dec 19. (UPI): President Corazon Aquino today ordered a halt on military operations against insurgents on Christmas and New Year's day and renewed her call for peace talks with rebel groups.

"We are in the season of the year that calls for peace and love," Aquino said in a statement. "It is good to pause and reflect on the meaning of these ideals."

Aquino ordered the 159,000-member armed forces to observe "a moratorium in military counter-insurgency operations" for 48 hours beginning Christmas eve and another 48 hours starting New Year's eve.

The 54-year-old President, however, directed that troops remain on alert for "defensive action and hot pursuit in case of attack by any hostile group."

Aquino reiterated that her 22-month-old government is committed to "genuine reconciliation."

"Determined efforts to bring about peace will continue. Since moves by insurgent groups

in seek peace will be matched with equal sincerity," she said.

Aquino's chief aide, executive secretary Catalino Macaraeg, told reporters the President's statement showed "very clear" the government remains open to a ceasefire with 23,000 fighters of the rebel New Peoples Army.

"This is clearly an indication the government is open to reconciliation," said Macaraeg. He said Aquino consulted Defence Secretary Rafael Ilet and armed forces chief Gen. Fidel Ramos before she issued the statement.

The government and the NPA agreed on a 60-day ceasefire from Dec 10, 1986, but the truce was allowed to lapse after talks to seek a lasting solution of the 18-year insurgency collapsed.

Aquino later ordered the military to "unsheath the sword of war."

Muslims

Last week, NPA spokesman Saturnino Ocampo said the rebels were considering declaring a unilateral cease-fire, but there has been no subsequent statement issued after that.

In the southern island of Mindanao, government troops with air and sea support have killed 20 Muslim separatist rebels in an operation mounted Friday in a cluster of 11 islets off the southern port city of Zamboanga, regional military commander Maj. Gen. Cesar Tapia said.

Tapia said the operation was launched after the rebels raided villages and killed 15 residents on Monday.

A ceasefire between the Muslim separatist Moro National Liberation Front and the government remains in effect in the southern Philippines since September 1986 despite occasional skirmishes.

Ambush

The MNLF spearheaded the war for Muslim self-rule in the Mindanao-Sulu region, 800 km south of Manila, in 1972. Fighting has claimed more than 10,000 lives.

In the central island of Negros, police said suspected communist guerrillas ambushed a jeep Friday, killing two policemen and seven civilians.

Meanwhile, 20 pirates who had massacred 14 fishermen in raids from island hideouts were killed during a two-day naval and aerial bombardment and a ground assault, the military said today.

Lt. Col. Anthony Elias, spokesman for the military's southern command, said fighting continued today between Army troops and members of the pirate band.

He said troops on Friday started shelling a group of tiny islands, 860 kilometers southeast of Manila, in a bid to wipe out the 100-member pirate group that uses the islands as a base for its attacks.

The military also said today that communist rebels killed nine people, including two children and two policemen, in an ambush Friday on the central Philippine island of Negros. Insurgents also killed a mayoral candidate in a separate incident there, military officials said.

The attacks were the latest in an 18-year insurgency by communist rebels intent on overthrowing the government.



Phil Carman, an American cowboy with the 'Buffalo Bill Wild West Show' and an Indonesian boy with a traditional Javanese cap seem to share a universal language. (Reuter Radiophoto)

Palestinian youths clash with police

(Continued from Page 1)

The UN Security Council yesterday postponed action until next week because of disagreement on a resolution strongly critical of Israel for the deaths of Palestinians during recent uprisings in occupied Arab territories.

A draft resolution before the 15-nation council, sponsored by the non-aligned nations, would have "strongly deplored" Israeli killings of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and called on the UN Secretary-General to seek ways of providing protection for civilians under Israeli occupation.

The draft would also call on Israel to "abide immediately and scrupulously" by the 1949 Geneva Convention on protection of civilians under military occupation.

Diplomatic sources said there was disagreement on the text with objections from the PLO, which demanded a stronger condemnation, and from the United States which considered it one-sided.

Council President Aleksandr Belonogov decided to postpone vote by the council until at least Monday.

During yesterday's debate, there was a brief demonstration inside and outside the council chamber by a group of some 20 Palestinian and American youths shouting "Stop Israel from killing the Palestinians."

People lay siege to ...

(Continued from Page 1)

In his government and trying to initiate an unconstitutional process in the political arena. Hasina told a meeting of Awami League activists.

"We shall firmly resist any unconstitutional move," she vowed. "We want free and fair polls but not under this government."

The other major opposition group, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party led by Begum Khaleda Zia, also spurned Ershad's offer of talks and renewed demands for a neutral caretaker government to oversee an election.

Hoped

Government officials said they still hoped talks would take place. "This is the only way to resolve the crisis peacefully. The alternative is a return to martial law," an official said.

Meanwhile, a coalition of 23 small rightists parties asked the government to announce a date for elections for a new Parliament.

The coalition, which generally supports Ershad, asked the government to lift the state of emergency and press curbs to improve conditions for elections.

"Even free and fair polls are possible under President Ershad," coalition spokesman Said Tareq told a news conference.

Soviet destroyers

TOKYO, Dec 19, (AP): Three new destroyers are joining the Soviet Pacific fleet, bringing the number of modern destroyers in the fleet up to five, the US Navy announced today.

In a statement, the US seventh fleet said the three Soviet ships were expected to enter the East China Sea today en route to their new home port of Vladivostok, following construction and sea trials in the Baltic Sea.

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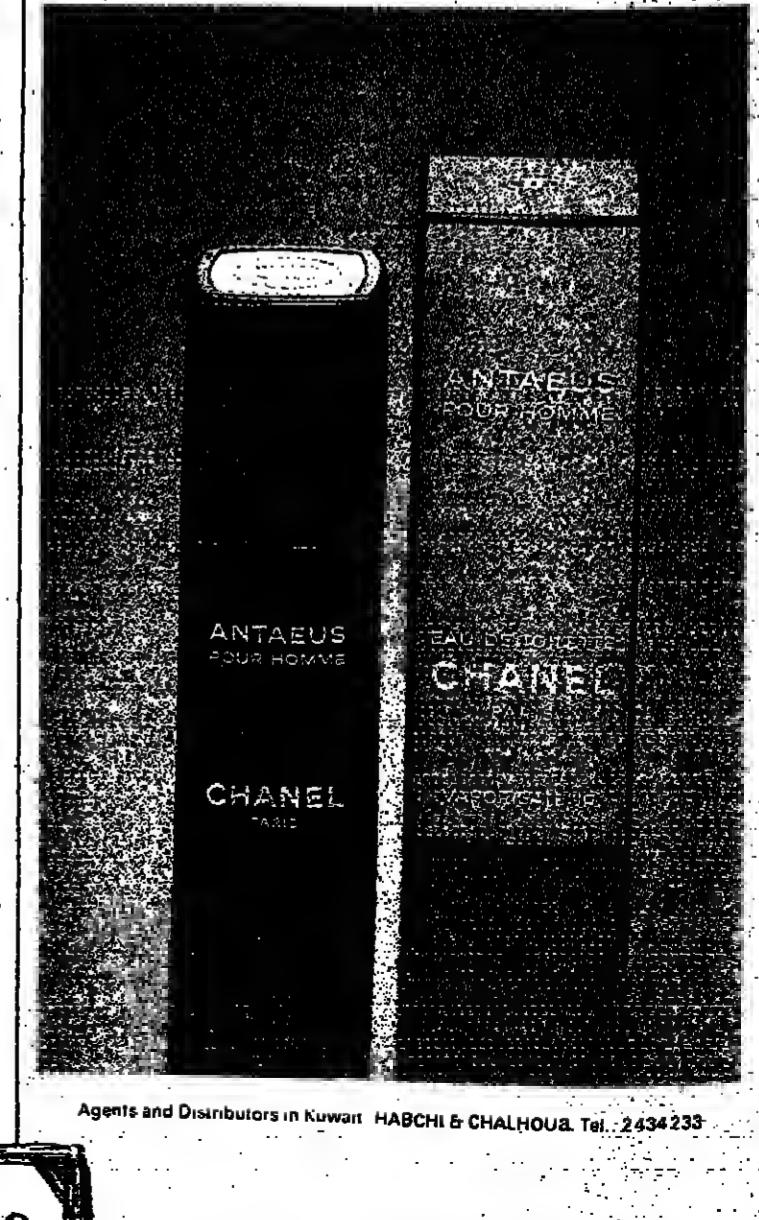
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Sheikh Sabah hopes GCC summit will cement ties

THE Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheik Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday hoped the forthcoming GCC summit would further cement ties between the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council and strengthen them in the face of serious developments in the region.

He told reporters the situation in the Gulf poses a tough challenge to countries of the region, but he said he was confident the GCC leaders who will meet in Riyadh on December 26 would agree on steps that serve the interests of their people and those of the Arab nation at large.

Sheikh Sabah will lead on Monday the Kuwaiti delegation to the GCC foreign ministers' meeting in Riyadh where he and his GCC counterparts would agree on a summit agenda.

He said he was hopeful the foreign ministers would reach an agreement on action that matches the seriousness of the situation in the Gulf and halt the Iran-Iraq war.

Asked on a visit to Kuwait by two Soviet envoys, the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister said the Soviet emissaries were

due few days ago but a sudden change in their schedule took them to Aden first.

Impact

Meanwhile, a senior Arab Gulf official yesterday said the GCC summit will be an extension to the emergency Arab summit in Amman, affirming that the good results of the Amman summit will have a positive impact on the Arab Gulf leaders' meeting.

GCC's assistant secretary general for political affairs Saif Bin Hasbel Al Maskari said in a statement to Qatari news agency in Riyadh that the GCC leaders will discuss in their next Saturday's summit the Iraq-Iran war developments and international efforts to stop this war particularly efforts aiming at implementing Security Council resolution 598.

Security

He added that the military cooperation between the six GCC countries is listed on the summit's agenda.

The unified security strategy, approved recently by the interior ministers of GCC states, will also be discussed by the leaders.

He added that a committee at the level of interior under-secretaries of GCC states, will meet next January to follow up discussing various items in the agenda.

Meanwhile, Gulf diplomatic sources revealed to a Kuwaiti daily that a draft agreement on security and military cooperation, in its final formula, will be presented by the GCC secretariat to the summiteers, providing a comprehensive security cover to the region's countries and setting up military cooperation programmes.

The sources also told the newspaper that the Kuwaiti point of view on the necessity of facing collectively any foreign aggression or any GCC member country, is likely to be taken into consideration.

On the unified economic agreement between the GCC states, Al Maskari said it will be one of the important items on the summit's agenda, particularly following the administrative and legal obstacles which faced the implementation of some of its articles.

Regarding military industry in the GCC countries, the assistant secretary general said there are ideas which will be submitted to the leaders on manufacturing certain kinds of military equipment.

Rashed Al Rashed also denied in statements to a Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday existence of divergent viewpoints on the required measures to



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah with Swaredahab, the chairman of the Islamic Dawaa Organisation in Sudan.

Amir receives Swaredahab

HH the Amir received yesterday Marshal Abdul Rahman Mohammed Hassan Swaredahab, head of the former Transitional Military Council and chairman of the Islamic philanthropic organisation in Sudan on the occasion of his visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khaled Ahmed Al Jassar and the ministry's Undersecretary Mohammed Nasser Al Hamdan.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah also received at the Council of Ministers Marshal Abdul Rahman Mohammed Hassan Swaredahab.

The Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed praised the role of the Islamic Al Dawa "philanthropic" organisation in serving Islamic and Muslim causes.

The remark was voiced during a meeting with Swaredahab.

Sheikh Sabah pledged support of the Kuwaiti government and contribution to the organisation's activities.

The Kuwaiti official told reporters that the talks centred on the organisation's situation and activities.

The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying Swaredahab, Kuwaiti Minister of Awqaf Khaled Al Jassar and other officials.

52 pc of cables were sent to Egypt

A SOURCE at Kuwait's Ministry of Communications said that about 52 per cent of the total number of cables sent from Kuwait in 1986 were to Egypt, with about 221,000 telegrams and 118,000 telegrams were received from Egypt during the same period or 37 per cent of the total received.

Rashed concluded that it is still premature to define broad outlines of the state's general draft budget for the next fiscal year, explaining that the civil service chamber and the finance ministry were still examining budget proposals made by government ministries and establishments.

Cables to and from Bombay contributed 12 per cent of the total number of cables sent and 14 per cent of the number received, which puts it in second place in volume to Cairo.

The source added that no cables were received or sent to Tehran or Beirut last year.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received at his office of the Council of Ministers yesterday, the State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, the State Minister for Municipal Affairs Abdul Rahman Khalid Al Ghundul and the secretary general of the Higher Planning Council Firdaus Mulla Hussein.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Egypt-Gulf states ties praised

A KUWAITI daily yesterday praised Egypt's relations with the Arab Gulf states describing them as "ideal."

Al Rai Al Aam, referring to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's statement in which he affirmed that Egypt's contacts with Arab countries have never stopped because his country abides by Arab principles and values, said the Gulf states on their part did not discontinue their contacts with Egypt and did not ignore Egypt's weight in the Arab, Islamic and international levels.

The newspaper went on, saying that maintaining satisfactory contacts with Egypt reflects a real expression of the needs of the current Arab stage, which is full of challenges and dangers.

The daily affirmed, in conclusion, that the Arab Gulf countries did not forget Egypt's stance and sacrifices for Arab causes during the past years.

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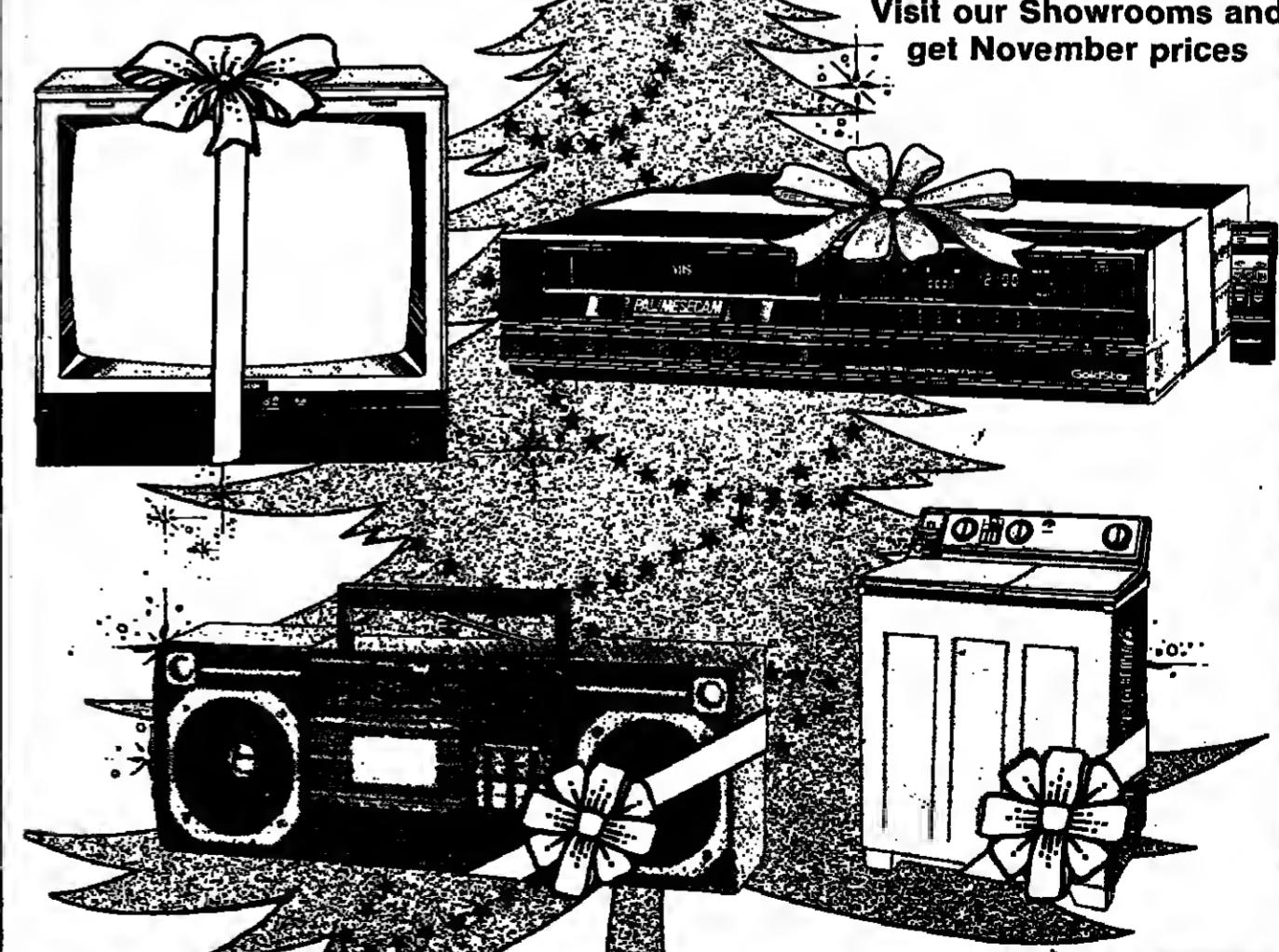
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KUWAIT ... GULF

Iran-Iraq war is the most serious threat to Arab security

A SENIOR Egyptian information official was quoted yesterday as calling for operational steps to fend off the main challenges menacing Arab security, particularly in the Arabian Gulf region.

Head of Egypt's general information authority, Dr Mamduh Al Baltaji said in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper, that the Iran-Iraq war is the most serious threat to Arab security followed by the continuing Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

He warned that the Iran-Iraq war, which has already been internationalised, could breed consequences beyond the control of the Gulf states.

But he stressed that Egypt, operating from the spirit of the Arab common defence pact, would no doubt side with the Arab Gulf states should the need arise.

Dr Al Baltaji said his country would continue support for Iraq for a variety of reasons ranging from Arab affiliations and Baghdad's stated readiness to sign a

peace agreement on basis of UN Security Council resolution 598 among others.

The Egyptian official expressed belief that Arab capitals should maintain periodic meetings, bi-annually or at least once a year, to try and solve any differences and plan common programmes.

Turning to the Arab arms industry, Dr Baltaji argued the feasibility of launching a common venture in the field on grounds that it is a costly business.



Students of Al Zahra Intermediate girls school yesterday presented commemorative gifts on the occasion of Arab Police Day to Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and the Interior Ministry Undersecretary Major-General Yusuf Bader Al Khorafi. The children are seen with Sheikh Nawaf.

Mellor meets Prince Saud

RIYADH, Dec 19, (Kuna): British Minister of State at the Foreign Office David Mellor, met here today with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal on bilateral relations and the latest developments of key international issues, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

Later in the day, Mellor conferred with Deputy Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Abdul Rahman Bin Abdul Aziz.

The agency said that the two sides focused on the situation in the Gulf region, the Iraq-Iran war and bilateral relations.

Mellor's visit to the kingdom falls within a Gulf tour which will also take him to Kuwait to look into the Gulf war and issues of mutual concern.

Arab Planning Institute reviews activities



Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi (centre) addresses the meeting.

KUWAIT'S Health Minister and acting Minister of Planning, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi yesterday chaired a regular meeting for the board of trustees of the Arab Planning Institute, in the attendance of representatives of board member states.

Dr Al Awadi said that the board discussed and endorsed a number of key issues like forming a work team from member states to outline a perspective for the institute's activities after eliminating all obstacles which hinder its goal toward qualifying specialised Arab cadres in the fields of planning and development.

He added, in a statement to Kuna following the meeting, that the conferees agreed to postpone payment of Iraq's and Lebanon's dues according to the institute's five-year plan of 1985-90 due to the difficult political and economic circumstances of the two countries.

The minister noted that the board also reviewed some of the financial problems which result from the difficulty of transferring and paying some of financial obligations of member states with hard currency and attempts to overcome them through establishing programmes to these countries.

The Arab Planning Institute provides training for specialists and administrative employees, in addition to granting planning and development services to Arab countries.

In purely musical mood

AMATEUR Indian vocalists were in purely musical mood at a concert held on Friday by a local orchestra, Moods and Melody, at the Hawalli Labour Union Hall.

In 1983, a group of amateur musicians teamed up to form the Moods and Melody. Six concerts and years later, the group is now set on expanding. Recently, they released a music cassette called "Divya Prakasham" (Divine Light) featuring devotional songs.

Performers at Friday's concert included guests Shailaja Ravio-

dhan and Chitra. Others vocalists were Girija Rajendran, Shobha, K.M. John, Rajasekaran and Babychoo. They presented a selection of Tamil, Malayalam and Hindi songs.

At their earlier concerts, they had sung more Hindi songs but they later realised their audience was mainly from the south, thus the emphasis on Tamil and Malayalam melodies.

Picture shows Girija Rajendran (left) with a member of Moods and Melody at the concert.



Child killed in road accident

A CHILD died after being involved in a traffic accident in Tema area yesterday.

There were 14 traffic accidents in Kuwait. Two took place in the capital, three in Hawalli, six in Al Ahmadi and three in Jahra.



Indonesian children recently presented a colourfully programme of dance and music to celebrate the Mother's Day. Folk dances and glimpses of Indonesian culture were shown at the celebration held at the ambassador's residence. Picture shows children displaying different cultures.

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A cultural show was held by the Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, to mark the Victory Day. Dances and songs were performed by Bangladeshi at the show held at the Sharq Cooperative Society auditorium. Pictures show three Bangladeshi ladies participating in the celebration. Right: A graceful dance, being presented. (Photos by Mohammed Bedaq)

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GOING PLACES

"There should be an element of madness"

Challenge makes a man creative: Sen

By Fathima Ahmed

A FILMMAKER goes to a remote Bengal village in 1980 and recreates the events that took place in 1943. In Search of a Famine, shown last night at the opening of the Indian film festival in Kuwait, is a film within a film. Its director Mrinal Sen is as complex, if not less.

Mrinal Sen is a bundle of contradictions. He declares he has no political affiliations. Yet, all his films challenge the system — political, social and economic.

Debate

Without fearing the ugly face of reality he exposes it in his movies. Yet, he fears to admit the relatively simpler truth of not being able to reach the masses. Content with doing what he is best at — making films, Sen observes life with his own philosophy. Always alert, Sen absorbs the ugly aspects of poverty, the middle class urge to keep up appearances, the crushing hypocrisy and the savage brutality of selfishness, meanness and cruelty. And with an impish smile and individualistic approach Sen attacks the system — "society, if you prefer."

"I try to pull myself with the hair and stand before a mirror, soul-searching and comment on reality," explains Sen, who is now in Kuwait on a brief visit. Then, it becomes his job to



Mrinal Sen: creative

spark a debate, open a dialogue and "disturb" his viewers. He admits he can't make sweeping changes through the medium of cinema.

"Cinema can't work magic. Like any other art form, cinema creates a climate for healthy debate," says Sen, who has been in the business for 30

years, excelling in his work and improving upon it.

Primarily, Sen is a "social being" who reacts to a given situation "quite normally." What makes Sen a master is his ability to "register the reactions in such a way that they turn out to be a social event, an eye-opener."

In the process he accepts challenges. "Facing a challenge is what keeps you creative," he asserts. Crises stimulate the filmmaker in Sen. "I derive a lot of inspiration from a challenge." He finds the cue in "the element of risk," of not knowing what happens next.

Sen is not a rebel but rebels against the system. He is politically motivated. His motives steer towards a broader political scenario. But he is neither a member of any political party nor any of the party's causes.

"Can one be a political?" he asks.

"Not all political films are subservient. It depends on your interpretation. Even the relationship between a man and a woman can have political overtones. Yes, in a broader sense, everything is motivated by politics," he says.

Sen thrives on controversy and candidly admits it. "There has to be an element of madness and a little bit of uncertainty in creativity," he explains. So, his work "grows by the minute" when Sen is behind the camera, filming.

"Forty per cent of the complete product is improvised," he reveals. From scribbled ideas on the script, Sen comes close to telling epic stories, even when he is working in an unfamiliar language like two of his rural films "Matura Manisha" (Two Brothers) in Oriya, an Indian dialect, and Oka Oori Katha (The Outsiders) in Telugu. Both films were based on classical literature.

Humour

While making Geneses, an Indo-French-Swiss-Belgian co-production, Sen "encountered perfection."

"They wanted to know what animals I wanted on the sets and on which day. When the actors would arrive and what I'd be doing at a given time," exclaims Sen.

Though he did give them a "complete script, the first time ever did so," Sen told the foreign collaborators: "The

only animal you'll see on the sets is Mrinal Sen."

Sen's sly humour comes across in such films as Mrigaya (The Royal Hunt) and he draws hard-hitting parallels to make political comments in such movies as Padatik (The Guerrilla Fighter) and Interview, both set in Calcutta, around which most of his films revolve.

"I look upon Calcutta as a metropolitan milieu — it could be anywhere in India," he explains. And, then, he talks about the disparity and hypocrisy.

Most of all Sen "serves his own conscience" somewhat of a self-appointed critic who looks at his surroundings analytically "to reach an element of profundity," he explains.

Sen has won acclaim worldwide for his films. It was not a smooth way to success. It was an uphill struggle like "climbing a steep hill." Yet, Sen is not out of breath.

Young

A dignified man in his 60s with deep probing eyes and elegantly greying hair, he looks at himself as "a man who is still young at heart." Ageing seems to be a minor inconvenience that does not seem to stop the ideas from flowing. Sen has an astounding capacity to talk endlessly — with ideas flowing incessantly.

His next venture is a film about women's liberation. "People wrongly believe that women's liberation means sexual freedom. What they (women) need is spiritual liberation, physically." He has begun work on the story of two women — one is 50 and the other is 20. Both "arrive at the moment of truth" at some point in the film. How long it will take to shape up the movie is not yet known. He is the sort of man who takes one thing at a time. Eventually, that film would come.

Mrinal Sen has made several neat classic movies. Yet, for Sen, the best is yet to come.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Hakim Al Aqazam: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 La Ilaha Illallah: daily historical serial; featuring Yusuf Shaban, Ragha, Hala Faher
- 5.30 Zahoor Min Noor: series for children, featuring Safa Abul Saud, Abu Bakr Ezzat
- 6.00 Soora Min Al Tabbiya: cultural film
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Al Kashaf: presented by Abdul Aziz Haddad.
- 7.30 Diwaniyat Shura Al Nabt poetry session
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Ghaddan Tadaq Al Ajras: daily serial, featuring Salah Saadani, Hina Thar-

wath, Mohammad Al Arabi.

- 10.30 Daerat Al Ahdah: "The Water Supply" in Kuwait. Guests are Faisal Yusuf Al Munis, Abdullah Mohammad Al Munayyes and Sadeq Ahmad Bu Hamad. Hosted by Kamel Abdul Jalil.
- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Inspector Gadget: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Not Another Science Show: "How Does Your Garden Grow?" Too much water and fertiliser can kill plants. Look at plant care.
- 7.00 Butterfly Island: "Prisoner of Silence". Charles is attacked by an unknown man while on his way to a scientific

mission.

- 7.30 Understanding Islam: religious programme
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Dalton: Code of Vengeance: "The Last Holdout". As a reward for saving a labourer, Dalton is hired by a vegetable seller.

- 9.40 Gone Fishing: fishing in New Zealand.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "The Fight Against Slavery". Part 2. In 1779, a slave trader Luke Collingwood, a ship's captain ordered his men to throw overboard over 100 Africans. The case was brought to court, not as murder, but as an insurance claim.

- 12.00 News Summary Magazine D'Actualite: Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

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Zuhra	11.46
Asr	2.36 pm
Maghreb	4.54
Isha	6.17

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	Failaka Pharmacy
	Opp. Police St., Main St., Jabra
	Al Noor Pharmacy
	New Souk

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Born American
Starring: Mike Norris,
Steve Durham
Al Salimiya
Ruthless People
Starring: Danny De Vito
Al Hamra
Angry Young Man
Drive-In
Jara Al Wuhoob (Arabic);
Starring: Noor Al Sharif,

Noora, Hussain Fahmi,
Mahmoud Abdul Aziz
Al Firdous
Anjaam (Hindi)
Starring: Shashi Kapoor,
Hema Malini
Fahad Open-Air
Aadm (Hindi)
Starring: Dilip Kumar
Al-Fahad
Nee Allenkil Jaan
(Malayalam)
Viva Knievel

Second straight win for Toyota

History repeated itself in 1987. Like the year before, Toyota has once again clinched the coveted manufacturer's title in the 1987 Middle East Rally Championship. These impressive victories of Toyota Celica Turbo, achieved with the co-operation of Toyota Team Europe, are proofs of the fact that commitment to quality has its own rewards.

RESULTS — 1987

Event	Position	Time	Driver
Qatar International Rally	2nd	3 hrs, 8 mins, 28 secs	Ahmed Khalifa
Kuwait International Rally	2nd	1 hr, 35 mins, 6 secs	Mohammed bin Sulayem
Jordan International Rally	1st	4 hrs, 7 mins, 56 secs	Mohammed bin Sulayem
Oman International Rally	1st	3 hrs, 19 mins, 30 secs	Mohammed bin Sulayem
Dubai International Rally	1st	3 hrs, 24 mins, 10 secs	Mohammed bin Sulayem

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Mohammed bin Sulayem (right) and co-driver John Spiller celebrating Toyota Celica Turbo's victory in Dubai.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WHAT on earth would man do with himself if something did not stand in his way? — H.G. Wells, English writer-historian (1866-1946).

OPINION**Let the flames of uprising glow**

WHY do we really want Israel to stop its atrocities against the Palestinians in the occupied territories? Let them continue with this violence because this means more revolution.

The world should stop its attempts to mediate and cool the revolution of Palestinians in the occupied territories because this is the real revolution. Israel's ideology is to liquidate the Palestinian people so that none remain to demand their rights to their lands.

Let the Israelis continue their acts of batred for this alone will fan the fire and increase the enthusiasm of Palestinian youths who have been waiting since 1948 for the truth of the world's lies. The world lied, saying they would return the Palestinian people to their homeland. Sometimes they promised that their land would be restored through a bloodbath, another time through the United Nations and another through the International Peace Conference. For more than 40 years the Palestinians have waited in vain, getting nothing except more Jewish colonies and the deportation of more Palestinians from their country.

Israel never hesitates in claiming that Jordan is the home of the Palestinians and that they should go there. After Jordan, Israel will say Syria is the home of the Palestinians, and later Egypt, until it becomes Turkey or East Asia as the land of the Palestinians. Along with the Palestinians, other Arabs in the lands annexed by Israel would have to leave also.

Let the Israelis cut open the bellies of young Palestinians, as this alone will incite the youth of Palestine to retaliate in like manner. This is what motivates revolution and by quelling the uprising and waiting for an international peace conference, we are simply restoring the years of the British mandate over Palestine and the years when Palestinians lived in tents waiting for their lost homeland to be returned.

For 40 years the world has cheated the Palestinians, telling them Palestine would be restored tomorrow, or the day after. By saying that 'tomorrow' is the US presidential elections and the world will then put pressure on Israel to do nothing but make a laughing stock of the Palestinians.

The true revolution is the revolution inside Palestine, and if it does not face more pressure from the tyranny of Israel it will subside as the revolution outside of Palestine has, turning into a war of hotels instead of trenches.

The flame has started and we must tend it. Arms are unimportant here; bombs and automatic machine guns are unnecessary — strikes, stones and fires alone are effective. Israel itself was established by the violence of the Haganah gang with fires and stones, and now Israel must be destroyed by the same weapon.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Haiti far off from path to democracy

By Dan Sewell

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, (AP) — Haitians praised the old council for its independence and its insistence in disqualifying candidates who supported the Duvalier dynasty. The council's members are in hiding.

Elections in this poverty-stricken Caribbean nation are set for Jan. 17, nearly two years after Haitians threw off the brutal Duvalier dictatorship. But citizens are afraid to vote, and some of the best-known candidates refuse to run because of the climate of violence and the potential for fraud.

Political observers say they can't predict what will happen. One Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity last week, repeatedly replied with the Haitian expression "pas connai (don't know)."

This former French colony was the second nation in the Western hemisphere to gain independence after the United States.

Francois ("Papa" Doc) Duvalier, who came to power in a disputed 1957 election and held power until his death in 1971, ruled with repression, raised taxes and let Haiti's infrastructure decline.

Forced

His son, Jean-Claude ("Baby Doc") Duvalier, ruled until wide civil unrest forced him to flee into French exile on Feb. 7, 1986, leaving a pillaged, shattered economy.

US officials had hoped the Nov. 29 balloting for president and national assembly would come off and Haiti would make its long-awaited transition to democracy.

But soldiers and gunmen thought to be remnants of the Duvaliers' feared private militia, the Tontons Macoute, killed at least 34 voters and confiscated ballots on election day. The election was called off three hours after it began.

The three-man junta, led by Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy, is plowing ahead with its own version of how to hold an election. It is rewriting the electoral law and appointed a new, nine-member electoral council last week to

replace the one it dismissed Nov. 29.

Haitian politicians praised the old council for its independence and its insistence in disqualifying candidates who supported the Duvalier dynasty. The council's members are in hiding.

The four presidential candidates generally considered to have the best organisations and widest following say they will boycott any election under a Namphy-appointed electoral council.

"We have decided to put our heads together because of our common conviction that free elections are not possible with this government," said Louis Dejeo II, joined by former World Bank economist Marc Bazin, human-rights activist Gerard Gourgue and peasant leader Sylvio Claude.

The four have the backing of Haiti's major unions. The small Communist Party, which fielded candidates on Nov. 29, says it will also boycott new elections.

The junta says it is not concerned about the boycott.

"Who says they are the major candidates?" said the government's acting minister of information, Gerard Noel. Noel didn't rule out the candidacies of some of the 12 alleged Duvalierists in new elections and said that is a matter for the new electoral council.

A boycott could open the National Palace for one of the 18 other presidential candidates on the ballot.

One, Gregoire Eugene, says he sees no reason not to run. Eugene, a soft-spoken teacher, returned from US exile to challenge Duvalier in 1985.

Two other candidates with anti-Duvalier credentials, Hubert de Ronceray and Leslie Manigat, said they are watching developments before deciding what to do.

Namphy repeatedly promises he will hand over political power to a freely elected government on schedule next Feb. 7. Politicians, some foreign diplomats and prominent Haitians, however, say it's obvious he wants a government the Army can influence.

Chances of reaching agreement on Start treaty fifty-fifty**Reagan determined to go to Moscow****Inside Washington**

By Henry Brandon



Mikhail Gorbachev

per cent reduction of long-range nuclear missiles.

No Soviet was willing to admit publicly that Gorbachev was disappointed with the limited advances made at the summit, the emphasis on both sides was on success and the new era in Soviet-American relations, but there were enough indications that Gorbachev was upset that he was unable to bring home more than the signatures on the INF Treaty. American officials acknowledged that the Soviets were anxious for more concrete results, especially on the observance of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, but they point out that, more often than not, it was the Soviets who were unwilling to make the necessary concessions.

The President has dropped their insistence that tests be limited to laboratories, as they argued at Reykjavik, and agreed to experiments and development outside them, but the Americans argued that experiments and developments do not serve their purpose unless they can be tested. The Americans have gone further in suggesting that permission for each test be agreed to separately, but the Soviet experts

are appear to be afraid that a test could develop into a space system.

If Reagan refused to go beyond his bottom line on SDI or Start he set himself, it was, at least partly, because he did not want to complicate the ratification debate on the INF Treaty in the Senate. After all, it is the ratification that is of immediate importance. After talking to Senator Byrd, the Democratic majority leader, I have no doubt that Senate ratification is certain by the end of February or the beginning of March.

Little headway was made in the discussion of regional problems, especially on the Middle East. The Soviets said that they may join the US in voting for military sanctions against Iran, but at the same time they argued that they are still trying to persuade the Iranians behind the scenes to accept the UN ceasefire resolution.

They also emphasised that there are so many weapons available on the free market that such sanctions are bound to have very little effect on the war. Some American officials believe that one reason Moscow has been trying

to improve its links with Tehran is the expectation that the Iranians in the end, even if they do not win the war, will be in a better position than Iraq.

What really troubles the Kremlin, though, is the strong American presence in the Gulf. It is for that reason that they proposed a United Nations naval presence to force the United States out, but this proposal does not even have much propaganda value. It is totally unrealistic.

Withdrawal

And as to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the Soviets went surprisingly far in hinting that they are so anxious to get out of this quagmire that they will accept the "understandings" that have been agreed on under the chairmanship of the UN mediator Diego Correa.

They provide for a start of the Soviet troops withdrawal to be followed within sixty days of the cutting off of outside aid to the rebels. American officials up to now assumed that the Soviets would not want to withdraw their own troops until they have some sort of subservient government in control and until they be accused of pursuing the "cult of personality". Those who met her personally during her Washington visit report that she seems to hold far more rigid ideological views than her husband, that she is very argumentative and not very tolerant of other people's views.

But there is no doubt that some sort of empathy has developed between President Reagan and general secretary Gorbachev and that both have a strong desire to lower the risks of war and to reduce the number of nuclear weapons on both sides.

Americans from the President down to the man-in-the-street were impressed by his dynamism, his intelligence, his quick wit, his self-confidence and his toughness.

They now realise that he is an adversary they must not underrate. At the same time, they also believe as Prime Minister Thatcher put it first, that they can do "business" with him. In fact, President Reagan went even further when he said that he was a man who had foreseen the idea of Soviet world domination. More secrets have been exchanged between the United States and the Soviet Union in the last three months than anybody would have thought possible even six months ago. It reminds me of a conversation Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet leader, had with Allen Dulles, the then director of the Central

Intelligence Agency. During his stay in Washington in 1959,

Khrushchev then, in a joshing way, suggested to Dulles that they exchange secret documents directly and thereby save themselves the costs of paying for their spy organisations.

Exchange

If the exchange of secrets has become something of a common place between the Soviets and the Americans, high Soviet officials telling their counterparts the latest jokes current in Moscow is a novelty.

One Soviet official, for instance, said to his neighbour at the White House dinner for Gorbachev that a story is making the rounds in Moscow that Raisa Gorbachev gets a high salary as an official adviser to her husband and that consequently she can live on her salary while his goes into a savings bank.

Raisa is said to be rather unpopular in the Soviet Union because in a country where the wives of government officials traditionally remain unseen in the background, she is accused of pursuing the "cult of personality". Those who met her personally during her Washington visit report that she seems to hold far more rigid ideological views than her husband, that she is very argumentative and not very tolerant of other people's views.

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Charges of rigging provoke outbreak of violence**South Korea faces another year of uncertainty**

By Spencer Sherman

pening the hopes of many that last year's political violence would be eclipsed by the advent of democracy.

The rollercoaster year began with revelations of the police torture-killing of a student, which became a rallying point for a broad cross section of people who had long been unhappy with the US-backed authoritarian government, and who took to the streets in student-led protests.

Further martyrs for the anti-government cause were created as the escalating violence brought firm police intervention. Chun's plan to pass power to his ruling party-approved successor subsided only when Chun capitulated to what he called the "will of the people" for direct elections.

But the political atmosphere remained tense, with continuing fears over the question of whether a peaceful transition from a military-backed government was possible and worry that communist North Korea was attempting to undermine the summer Olympic Games scheduled in Seoul next September.

On Nov. 29, a Korean Air passenger jet with 115 people aboard

vanded over South East Asia and officials believed North Korean might have been behind a plot to bomb the jet out of the sky. But all the facts were not known as the year drew to a close.

None of the turmoil that wracked the country in 1987 seemed to derail South Korea's economic "miracle" as the industrial juggernaut plowed ahead.

The growth of the gross national product was expected to meet or beat the 12.5 percent growth rate of 1986.

South Koreans of all political stripes hoped that the first popular presidential election in 16 years and the 1988 Olympics would thrust the nation center-stage as an equal partner with its allies in the Western industrialized world.

The political future of the nation looked bleak at the beginning of the year when the government admitted that police had tortured and killed student Park Chong-Chul while interrogating him about his anti-government activities.

His death added fresh fuel to the anti-government student and dissident movement that had fought to topple Chun since he

rose to power in a 1979 coup, after the assassination of President Park Chung-Hee, another general who took power in a 1961 military coup.

Soon after the torture-death was revealed, government and opposition party lawmakers deadlocked over what form of government should replace the fifth republic by Chun.

Opposition leaders insisted that direct elections replace the electoral college system that voted Chun into power twice, fearing the system was rigged in favour of Chun's hand-picked successor Roh Tae-Woo, another former general who was instrumental in Chun's 1979 coup.

Then came what one Western diplomat called "Chun's fatal miscalculation," an April 13 speech where he said "time runs out" for negotiations and he ordered presidential elections be held under the electoral college system.

For three weeks, the government attempted to crush the riot, which spread across the country with tear gas and truncheons, but it didn't work. Even the growing fear that Chun

would declare martial law did not stop the riots.

Faced with the possibility of losing the Olympics in a haze of tear gas, Chun conceded in a direct election on July 1, saying the will of the people had been heard.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1562 — Gregorian calendar is adopted in France.
1694 — Frederick of Brandenburg restores Schweihs to Holy Roman Empire.
1712 — Sweden defeat Danes at Gadehusch, Poland.
1830 — London conference of Britain, France, Austria, Prussia and Russia agrees on separation from Holland.
1852 — British forces annex Pegu, lower Burma, in war with Burmese.
1912 — London peace conference between Turkey and Balkan states.

1922 — Fourteen republics of Russia form Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
1928 — Britain recognises Nanking government (Kuomintang) of China.
1954 — France sends 20,000 troops to Algeria.

1957 — European nuclear energy agency is inaugurated.
1972 — Guinean kill eight men and wound five others in one of bloodiest days in Northern Ireland conflict.
1973 — Spain's Premier Luis Carrero Blanco is killed when assassins blow his car in Madrid.

1985 — Three gunmen end one-day siege of courtroom in Nantes, France, and release all but two of their original 30 hostages as they head for airport getaway.

1986 — Up to 30,000 students march for democracy through streets of Shanghai in China's largest demonstration since the Cultural Revolution.

Shortage of workers in Singapore sends employers scrambling

By Ruth Youngblood

independence is creating a tight labour situation that could overheat and undermine the recovery itself, economists warn, with American manufacturers among those who would suffer the most.

The 8 per cent unemployment rate of 1985 has been replaced by an acute shortfall in the most critical industries. With Singaporeans able to pick and choose, job-jumping is becoming epidemic, particularly in the electronics industry.

Enticements such as free retraining, premium salaries and opportunities with prestigious international corporations failed to spark even a hint of enthusiasm.

I want to work only on weekends and during school holidays," said Tan Lee Eng, "when the children don't need me at home."

Two other candidates with anti-Duvalier credentials, Hubert de Ronceray and Leslie Manigat, said they are watching developments before deciding what to do.

Namphy repeatedly promises he will hand over political power to a freely elected government on schedule next Feb. 7. Politicians, some foreign diplomats and prominent Haitians, however, say it's obvious he wants a government the Army can influence.

remains high but when it comes to the interview, many of them either disappear or make excessive or unreasonable demands, like refusing to work shifts or to do certain types of work," a personnel manager said.

With the United States the largest source of direct foreign investment here amounting to \$7.5 billion, authorities agree it is essential to tap a large portion of the 745,799 economically inactive residents to meet expanding demands at a time when population growth is stagnated.

The government has even started allowing factories to bring in workers from China although there are no diplomatic ties between the two countries.

So far, National Semiconductor Pte., Ltd., a subsidiary of the US-based National Semiconductor Corp., has hired 100 Chinese contract workers. Another company is hiring, and a third has reportedly sent recruiters on an evaluation mission.

Permitting the Chinese workers to exceed supply," said Jeremy Lee, personnel manager of Black & Decker, a US manufacturer of electrical household appliances.



A NEW crew will blast off on Monday to the Soviet space station Mir, where their takeover from the present crew apparently signals the start of the laboratory's permanent occupation. A Soyuz TM-4 rocket stands on the launch pad ready for Monday's launch. (Reuter radiophoto)



METROZOO assistant curator Ron Magill examines a Siamese twin snapping turtle. The four-year-old turtles are joined at the shells and share seven legs, two tails and two heads. They are on display at the Miami zoo. (Reuter radiophoto)



BENAZIR BHUTTO, the 34-year-old Oxford-educated Pakistani opposition leader is pictured with her husband Asif Zardari on the eve of their wedding. (Reuter radiophoto)



FIRST LADY Nancy Reagan listens to two-year-old Emilee Dobish on Friday during a visit to Children's Hospital in Washington. Mrs Reagan presented the hospital with a \$25,000 cheque from several industries and toured the hospital wards visiting patients. (Reuter radiophoto)



SOUTH KOREA'S president-elect Roh Tae Woo (right) visits President Chun Doo Hwan at the Blue House presidential mansion on Saturday for post-election talks. (Reuter radiophoto)



INDIANA forward Herb Williams (right) battles with Utah forward Cerey Scurry (left) during first half basketball action in Indianapolis on Friday. (Reuter radiophoto)



A LITTLE boy shows his toy camera to his grandmother during a family picnic at Ming Tombs near Peking on a sunny winter day. (Reuter radiophoto)



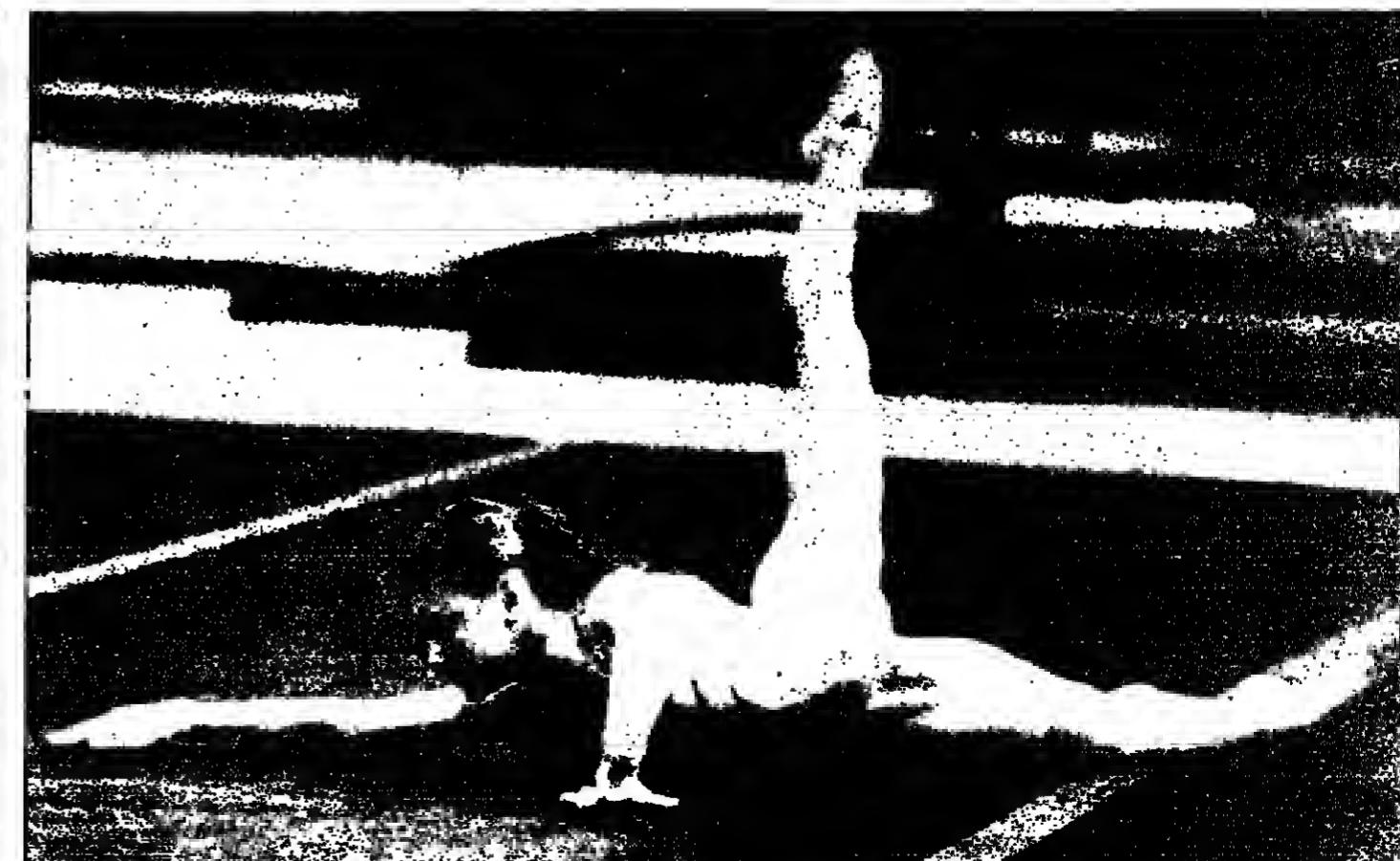
FORMER Wall Street investor Ivan Boesky leaves court in New York on Friday after being sentenced to three years in prison for illegally trading inside information that earned him millions of dollars. (Reuter radiophoto)



WEST GERMAN Social Democrat Hans Juergen Wischniewski, seen in this June 1987, file photo, is one of the three politicians who were named by Nicaraguan President Ortega as specialist advisers in a second round of ceasefire talks with Contra rebels. (Reuter radiophoto)



THE tail section of a Philippine Airlines Sunriser plane which crashed last Sunday morning is seen on Mt Gurain in Munai, Lanao del Norte. The bodies of the 19 passengers and crew were recovered. (Reuter radiophoto)



SOVIET All Republics junior champion gymnast, Olga Chudina, 14, performs a floor exercise during Friday's practice sessions for the international tournament at Alexandra Palace in London which will be held this weekend. (Reuter radiophoto)

SCIENCE

By Carole Beckley

LURKING in your bed, nestled under the covers, are millions of tiny creatures crawling about and nibbling on flakes of your skin.

No matter how often you change the sheets and air the bedroom, the mites will still be there — 2,000,000 in the average double bed.

They are fussy creatures. They only live in beds and carpets and eat nothing but human skin.

There is plenty of it about. Skin falls off at an alarming rate whenever you move — tens of thousands of skin flakes per minute. And the waiting dust mites, hiding at the base of the carpet tufts, are ready to gobble them up.

Dust mites are not the only creatures you share your house with. With the help of highly powered microscopes, computer-enhanced X-rays and a camera, all sorts of creepy crawlies come into focus.

Those hungry little dust mites might be invisible to the human eye, but magnified they look like terrifying monsters. In a new book, author David Bodanis uncovers and photographs the secret world in your home.



Green Fingers: Magnified 20 times, an aphid clammers over a leaf. Simple things like gardening, sneezing, and even taking a bath, will never seem the same again.

psedomonads — itty-bitty tube-like creatures with long tails that swim across table surfaces and congregate around the sink.

On the walls are fungus creatures, with legs like an octopus, which plug themselves into tiny cracks in the wood and paintwork.

In a new book David Bodanis has uncovered the secret world of your house and its skin-crawling stuff. Nothing is as it seems — from the

Skin-crawling discovery

The secret world of your house!

Hiding in your bed, in your bathroom, in your kitchen and even on your clothes are millions of creatures waiting to pounce on you. These hungry little mites might be invisible to the human eye but magnified they look like terrifying monsters. In a new book, author David Bodanis uncovers and photographs the secret world in your home.

clothes we wear to the food we eat. For instance, take a look at the shirt or blouse you put on each morning.

Clean cotton shirts are dripping with all sorts of gooey outer layers which soak up dirt. The fibres are covered with dissolved waxes and resins and when you move, skin flakes and grease rub off and get trapped among the fibres.

Compare a clean collar and a dirty collar under a microscope and you will never forget to change your shirt again.

If you thought washing and shaving were simple procedures, think again. David Bodanis says: "Scooping a mass of coagulated dirt, live fungi and other undesirables from a large webbing of dead cell material is one way to des-

cribe washing your hair.

"Warm, molten grease slides along the hair and this picks up anything that is floating around — 15 grammes of dirt every two days."

"When you wash your hair, the detergent tears off the dirt and congealed grease but it also alters the electrical balance of the hair. Brushing or combing the hair makes this worse."

"To de-electrify the hair, you can use conditioner or bars-

pray. The former is just a mix that produces positive electric charges and the spray acts like a continuous wrap and clings tight."

The aftermath of shaving is also disconcerting. If you use an electric razor, there will be 100,000 to half a million skin cell chunks that have been torn loose, stuck to the blades. And left behind on the face will be ripped hairs, stumps and gashes. No wonder so many

men grow beards!

Examining the food we eat is even more stomach-churning.

A prime cut of beef may look fresh, red, juicy and appetising but looks are deceiving.

David explains: "Meat is red simply because it is in contact with oxygen, and oxygen and haemoglobin produces red pigment."

"In actual fact, the meat you buy is more than ten days old because you wouldn't care to eat it any earlier. Fresh meat suffers from rigor mortis and it takes more than a week for the tortured death agony of the animal's muscles to loosen."

"So, unless you want to eat tough grey meat, wait for a week to let the muscles relax and soften again." It's enough to make you become a



Eye of a needle: A threaded needle, seen through a microscope. What appears to be a bundle of ropes is actually fine cotton thread.

vegetarian!

In his book, David also examines sounds — from the inaudible hen's eggs breathing in the panty to the loud crunch of a crisp.

Eggs have little holes that breathe in oxygen and release gases. But the boles also let in bacteria.

Once inside the egg, the bacteria has a battle to survive. The white is like a chemically-loaded, booby-trapped sea that destroys bacteria instantly. Unless the bacteria arrives on a

vitamin, it will be doomed.

Lettuce, carrots and onions are naturally crisp, but heat makes that crunchy bite when you bite in them.

David says: "It's a clever piece of engineering. These fruits are composed of water-packed cells which pop open when you bite. When an apple is consumed, microcosm water jets geyser out at over 100 miles per hour (160 kph) at the point of tooth contact."

"How loud the explosive vegetable boom is, will depend on how strong the balloon cell walls are, i.e., how much they can take before exploding."

This idea of little explosive cells is used to make potato crisps. Crisps are pumped full of air — 80 per cent per crisp — and when you bite into them, the cell walls snap and generate a sound wave.

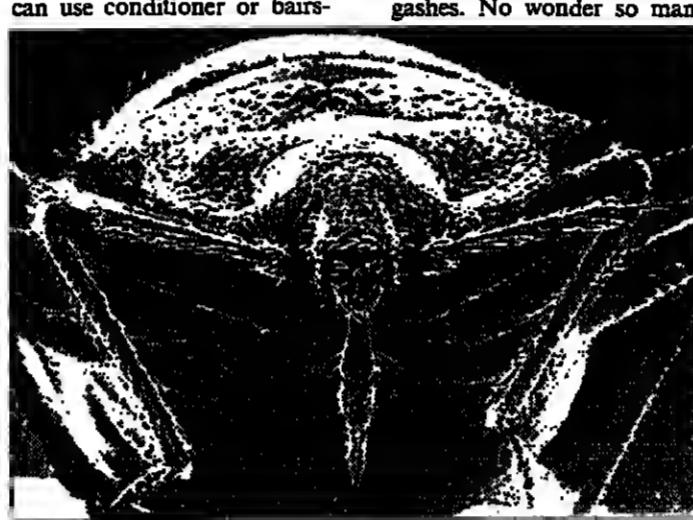
Under a microscope, a crisp looks like the lunar surface of the moon. It is covered with craters and furrows and these act as fault lines to spread the break.

Most foods are unrecognisable when they are magnified. Salt crystals look like spaceships and sugar appears as pretty, flower stalks.

The Secret House: by David Bodanis (Sidwick and Jackson, UK £12.95).



Sinister: A woodworm beetle emerges from a chair leg, photographed through an electron microscope. No matter how fussy you are, your home will be running alive with millions of these tiny creatures.



Micro monster: Hairy and horrible, a dust mite magnified 1,000 times. These creatures hide in beds and carpets, waiting to gobble up your skin flakes.



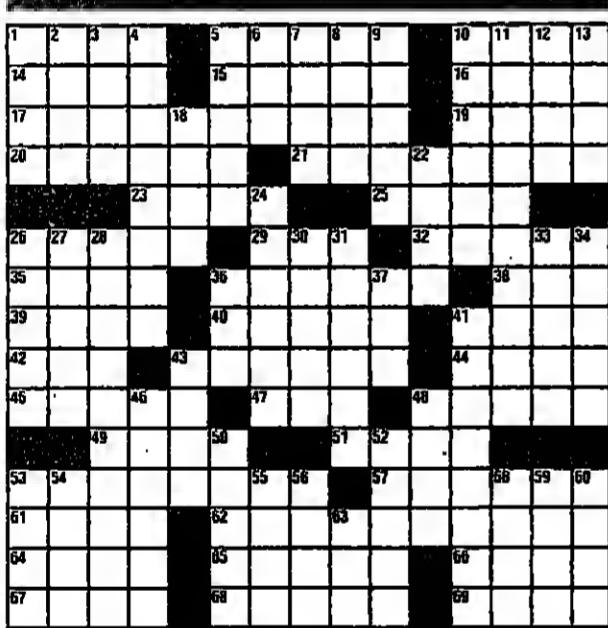
Bed companion: A hunting bedbug in full glory. The head is tiny, but the body is huge and expandable, for holding the blood it siphons in.



Close shave: The difference between an electric and razor shave, seen under a microscope. Left shows a beard hair cut with an ordinary razor, while right is a hair from the same man, trimmed with an electric razor.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K9852 ♦83 ♦Q763 ♦K4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—You do not have enough for game, but you have the values to invite partner to go on if he has a maximum. However, the hand would play better in spades if partner has a fit. So start off by checking on partner's major-suit holdings by using Stayman. Bid two clubs.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K9852 ♦83 ♦Q763 ♦K4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—You have a very good hand, but you can't be sure where you are going to play — spades, hearts, diamonds and no trump are all still possible. Don't steal your own bidding room by jumpy shifting! Just bid two diamonds. You will learn more from partner's free action than from a forced response. And should he pass two diamonds, you probably don't have game anyway.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K9852 ♦83 ♦Q763 ♦K4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Partner's two no trump rebid denies three-card support for your suit and, at the same time, says he has a minimum no trump opening. With only 8 HCP, you don't have enough to raise, so pass.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K9852 ♦83 ♦Q763 ♦K4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Partner's raise to three spades still shows a minimum no trump, but it promises three-card support. Once you have located a fit, your hand revalues to 10-plus points, so you should go on to four spades.

THE WIZARD OF ID



By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

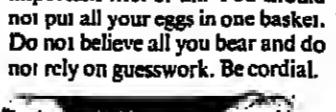
The circumstances are right for you to do something you have had in mind for some time. You will have the courage of your convictions. You should not lose sight of your objectives. Be firm.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

You will be able to make good progress in dealing with a more secondary matter.

However you must not neglect dealing with what is most important. Do your utmost not to lose your temper.

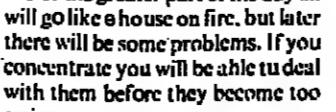


Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

A problem you thought was difficult will turn out to be quite easy to deal with.

You must do all you can to fulfil a promise you have made.

You will have something to be pleased about. Be tactful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will tend to tire rather easily

and should attend to what is most important first of all.

You should not put all your eggs in one basket.

Do not believe all you hear and do not rely on guesswork. Be cordial.



Gemini (May 20 - June 21)

For the greater part of the day all

will go like a house on fire, but later

there will be some problems.

If you concentrate you will be able to deal with them before they become too serious.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to be more sure of yourself.

You should pay more attention to what other people are saying. Be resilient.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will be more able to rely on your own efforts. You will need all

your perseverance and determination if you want to make progress.

Do not treat your children as though they were still infants.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Make quite sure you do not forget a birthday or anniversary. You should not believe all you hear and you should be on the lookout for someone out to deceive you.

There will be some tense moments but if you keep calm and do not lose your temper you will be able to deal with them. Venus's more favourable influence will help you to deal with a personal matter.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

There is no time to lose. You will have something to be pleased about but you must not relax your efforts.

Concentrate on what is most important and then relax. Be considerate.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should not leave everything until the last moment. Your intuition will help you to decide between two equally reasonable alternatives. You will be able to do friend a great favour. Be lenient.

SNIPPETS

Aquino, Ollie North top newsmakers

WASHINGTON, (UPI) — Marina Lt Col Oliver North and Philippine President Corazon Aquino were named male and female newsmakers of the year in a poll of UPI clients.

North received top billing for his role in the Iran-Contra scandal, in which the former White House aide was viewed as a John Wayne-type hero as well as a Rambo-like renegade.

Aquino garnered headlines and support for staving off bloody coup attempts while carefully pushing ahead with democratic reforms in the aftermath of the martial rule of deposed leader Ferdinand Marcos.

Tasaday probe dropped

The House of Representatives dropped its investigation into the Tasaday controversy to protect the country's ethnic groups and cultural heritage from abuse and exploitation.

The House committee on national cultural communities voted unanimously to end the probe and pass it instead into the scientific community after hearing the testimonies of well-known scientists and anthropologists as well as T'boli and Tasaday tribesmen upholding the authenticity of the Tasadays.

As an offshoot of the three-month investigation, the committee decided to draft a bill to protect the cultural minorities all over the country and punish any person, group or organization that exploits and manipulates them for selfish motives.

The motion to drop the investigation was made by Congresswoman Maria Clara Lobregat of Zamboanga city, who pleaded for an end to the harassment received by the Tasadays and other tribal groups brought about by the Tasaday-hoax story.

Gringo arrest leads to killing

A DEBATE between two soldiers drinking in West Crame, San Juan, over the arrest of rebel leader Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan led to a shooting incident in which one of them was killed.

Constable Second Class Hermie Villadelpago, a member of the Guardian (El Diable) Brotherhood, died of three bullet wounds in the body at the Camp Crame hospital.

Hill killer, identified only as Constable Poncejas, surrendered to the PC Military Police company in Camp Crame. His full name was not available as the military refused to release details on the incident.

Villadelpago, Poncejas and three other soldiers were drinking beer when their conversation drifted into the arrest of Honasan in Valde Verde, Pasig.

The two had opposing views on whether Honasan surrendered or was captured. Poncejas allegedly drew his 45 caliber pistol and shot Villadelpago, who was hit in the right hand.

The victim ran home apparently to arm himself but was stopped by two more shots that hit him in the back. He fell on the street unconscious. The three soldiers brought him to the hospital where he died.

PBA basketball**San Miguel close in on title**

By Teddy Vic Melendres

SAN MIGUEL Beer knew the going would be tough this time with Ricky Relosa around, but it was ready for any eventuality, including a strategy which calls for a sustained fire from the outside.

The Beermen carried the fight from the perimeter as fiercely as the enemy could offer on the way to a hard 113-105 triumph over Hills Bros. Coffee and moved within a wio of wrapping up the PBA Reinforced conference title at the Ultra.

Bobby Parks, the tournament's best import, asserted himself against Relosa and Elpidio Villamin as the going got tough midway through the final quarter and Ricky Cui got loose with a pair of triples as San Miguel foiled Hills Bros' last-ditch comeback that had the Coffee Kings breathing down the Beermen's neck, 85-89 from 73-60.

Ginebra San Miguel made everything look like a mismatch of a game in an overpowering 153-109 rout of Shell Azocord to complete a 4-0 sweep in their own battle for third place.

Aquino rapped on human rights issue

By Nymfa Rueda

AN Australian fact-finding team led by a member of parliament said it will ask the Australian government to suspend military aid to the Philippines because of what it described as a "return to the unacceptable human rights situation under the Marcos regime."

"Notwithstanding (the government's) significant moves towards human rights reform there has been a substantial increase in rights abuses since the breakdown of the ceasefire," Dr Andrew Theophanous, head of the eight-man team, told a press conference at the end of their one-week fact-finding mission here.

The team members, in a statement released to newsmen at the Quezon City Sports Club, also criticised the government's endorsement of armed vigilante groups.

They said they have substantial evidence to prove that these groups are "guilty of serious criminal offences such as murder, torture and the intimidation of the civilian population."

The President is apparently being misled on this (vigilante) matter," Theophanous said, calling the government's guidelines on vigilante operations as "nonsense." "It (guidelines) will just be ignored," he said.

Assailing the government's policy of total war against insurgents, the team members also recommended that the government resumes peace negotiations with the National Democratic Front (NDF) and address the roots of the insurgency problem.

The team members, who include International Commission of Jurists-Australian Section Secretary General David Bitel, also recommended that the Commission of Human Rights be given prosecutorial powers "to be more effective."

Senators raise three conditions**Accord likely on Sabah**

By Marlen Ronquillo

THE Philippines will drop its claim to the Malaysian state of Sabah provided three conditions are met, according to a bill filed yesterday by 18 senators, more than enough for a majority vote.

The Senate's near-unanimous support for the bill ascertains the abandonment of the 25-year-claim even as the Sultanate and its heirs threatened to merge with Sabah unless the government revives sovereignty and proprietary claims simultaneously.

Merging with Sabah would be the sultanate's "last resort," lawyer Abraham Rasul, representative of the sultanate and its heirs, said when House representatives passed a bill dropping the claim.

Senators said the bill, which deletes provisions of Republic Acts 3046 and 5446 defining Sabah as part of Philippine territory, is based on the following conditions:

- The ratification of two treaties: on extradition and on amity, cooperation and commercial relations.
- The conclusion of border crossing and border patrol agreements and the signing of accords of fishing, labour and trade.

- The full and satisfactory settlement of the proprietary rights of the heirs of the Sultan of Sulu.

In a photocopied statement sent to reporters at the defense department, the Sulu sultante said it agreed to subordinate the sultanate's proprietary rights to the Philippines' sovereignty claim to 1962 "out of sheer patriotism."

Rasul said the government must consider alleged support of the Moro National Liberation Front by Malaysia, warning that some MNLF leaders are very much involved in the proprietary claim.

"Things are developing fast in Mindanao and there might be renewed fighting in the south," Rasul said.

But senators supporting the bill said Malaysia is willing to resolve both claims, quoting Malaysian Foreign Minister Haji Abu Hassan Omar who said Kuala Lumpur "is prepared to consider all avenues for a satisfactory solution of the question."

Senate President Jovito Salonga has been told the representatives of both governments have "initialled" the draft treaties on amity, cooperation and commercial relations and those on border patrol and extradition.

The near unanimous support for the bill does not mean, however, that the measure will be passed soon.

"The hill has to go through intense floor debates. The senators should not look like they are offering a gift to the Malaysian government," said one senator. The bill was calendared under "ordinary business."

Alberto wins top sports award

SAN Miguel Beer centre Alberto Guidaben became only the third man in PBA history to win more than a single most valuable player award even as Bobby Parks distinguished himself as the best import in the Reinforced Conference.

Guidaben, who won the award for the first time in 1983, thus joined Ramon Fernandez of Tanduyan and William Adornado of Hills Bros. Coffee both three-time MVPs, as the only player to have won the prestigious plum at least twice.

The 34-year-old Guidaben, who played for three different teams in the last four years without winning a championship, showed the way in the statistical race with 5196 points and got the nod of his fellow players and the media bloc to bring his total to 8,056 — 1,176 points up on the second running Elpidio Villamin.

And Parks tallied 59 votes, 25 from the players and 34 from the media men, to edge crowd favourite Billy Ray Bates for the best import award.

Bates, leader in the statistical race, could only get 46 votes as he failed to win the coveted title for the second time in four appearances since 1983.

"Masayang-masaya ako, pero mas maganda sana kung mapapalunan ng team ang championship sa conference na ito (Reinforced)," said Guidabean after the awards ceremonies held last night.

But the biggest winner was Villamin.

Playing in only his seventh season as a pro, the six-foot-four Villamin made it as a forward in the elite mythical five selection and one of five players in the League's best defensive team aside from being voted the year's most improved player.

Guidaben and Villamin are joined to the mythical five by Philip Cesar, Hector Calma and rookie Alan Caidec.

Caidic become only the third rookie in the League's history after Arnie Tuadles and Ricky Brown who made it to the elite selection.

Bob Brown and Tuadles themselves are members of this year's second best five that included Fernandez, Joy Carpio and Ricky Relosa.

Those who made it to the best defensive team along with Villamin were Relosa, Cesar, Chito Loyzaga and Melchor Ravanes.

Gringo: capture or surrender?

CERTAIN quarters are attempting to minimise the capture of renegade Army officer Gregorio Honasan. There are those who say the operation was nothing more than a well-organised tableau, a pre-arranged, face-saving scenario that permitted the notorious Gringo to live up to his much-publicised vow of "no surrender." Then there are others who say that the capture could have been effected much earlier, that the military had dilly-dallied and equivocated throughout the so-called massive manhunt for the right-wing officer and his band of military adventurists.

What all these suppositions actually represent are the deep-seated misgivings many Filipinos still have for the armed forces. And for as long as such feelings persist, there will always be those who would seek to interpret the military's achievements along the lines of their own biases. And certainly there are still a great number of so-called bad eggs in the AFP to warrant such prejudices.

But the capture of Honasan was a genuine achievement for which the armed forces fully deserve the commendation of a relieved public. True, Gringo and his companions many have been handled with kid gloves by some of his captors, who as soldiers too should not be blamed for maintaining some admiration for the swashbuckling ex-colonel, no matter how crazy his political views are. In fact, greater should be the praise for those troopers of the National Capital Region Defense Command, because despite how they felt about their mission they accomplished it nonetheless. Isn't that, after all, what "duty" is all about?

In fact, the capture of Honasan should be regarded as a significant turning point in the attitude of the military organisation. Once it was thought that the military had power from the bungling civilians in charge of the government. Many soldiers — like other citizens — may still feel distressed by the thought of overly ambitious politicos and incompetent bureaucrats holding the reins of power. But if the operations against Honasan is any



indication it is perhaps safe to say that a growing number of them are now no longer willing to let those personal feelings get in the way of their professional conduct. — Editorial, Manila Bulletin

So, who's hiding under the bed?

By Glenda Gloria

"O, SINO nongayon ang nagtaga sa ilalim ng kama? (So, who's now hiding under the bed?)" asked President Aquino this week, in apparent reference to reports that Gregorio Honasan, the leader of the Aug 28 coup attempt, did this when his captors arrived at his hideout in Valle Verde subdivision.

The President was reported to have cracked the "joke" in Malacanang shortly before the oath-taking of newly-promoted Brig. Gen. Honestio Isleta and Brig. Gen. Raul Aquino.

Isleta later virtually confirmed the report but said: "Naku, wala yun. Naghibiro lang yun. (There's nothing there. She was only kidding.)"

Isleta is the chief of the armed forces civil relations service while Aquino is the commander of the 2nd Infantry Brigade of the First Infantry Division in Northern Mindanao.

A newspaper columnist had written shortly after Honasan's mutiny that the President tried to hide under her bed at the height of the putsch that resulted in the death of at least 53 persons and the wounding of around 300 others, one of them the President's only son, Benigno III.

The morning the report came out, a visibly angry Aquino invited journalists to her residence on Arlegui, showed them her bedroom and the bed under which she allegedly hid — covered by a wooden panel on all sides making it impossible for anyone to hide under it. Later in the afternoon, she motored to City Hall to file a libel case



against the columnist who in turn, claimed he used the phrase as a figure of speech. The bunt lingered for some time and the President was to mention this several times in meetings with civilian and military officials — that it was the first time somebody ever insinuated she, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, was a coward.

It is still unclear whether or not Honasan really hid under a bed when his captors arrived at the condominium where he had scheduled an interview with a foreign correspondent. At Malacanang, Col Luis Santos, who led the raiding team that captured Honasan confirmed claims by one of the housemaids that the coup leader hid under a bed.

But Brig. Gen. Ramon Montano, chief of the National Capital Region Defense Command, denied this later.

Montano said Honasan hid inside the bathroom of the maids' quarters.

Aquino said she was "overjoyed" by the capture of Honasan and promised the 37 soldiers and government agents who took part in the raid an exclusive party she herself will host at Malacanang.

"I would like to show you how much I appreciate this," she told the soldiers before personally handing over to them presidential letters of citation.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

'G-7 should only meet if it can produce results'

MUNICH, West Germany, Dec 19. (Reuter) A meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrial nations would be futile if it cannot produce results, West German Economics Minister Martin Bangemann said today. "Such a meeting remains futile as long as we have no new decisions to make," Bangemann said in an interview with the West German radio station Bayerische Rundfunk.

An inconclusive meeting would only worsen the turbulence on currency and capital markets, he added.

The G-7 last met in February and pledged to foster currency stability under an agreement dubbed the Louvre accord.

Discussions

West German government sources said on Friday G-7 nations had held intensive discussions by telephone in recent days on the possibility of renewing currency and economic accords.

Earlier Reuters quoted government sources in Tokyo as saying the G-7 might issue a statement over the weekend reaffirming currency stability measures in a bid to prevent a further drop in the dollar.

But West German government sources said G-7 discussions had not reached a point of fixing a date for such a statement.

Bangemann said in the radio interview that October's stock market crash would not hurt economic growth in the world's leading industrial nations.

He said there were no fears of a recession. West German gross national product (GNP) should grow by more than 1.5 percent in 1988 and prices should rise by around one per cent.

Greece approves budget aimed at increasing incomes

ATHENS, Dec 19. (Reuters) The Greek parliament has approved the socialist government's 1988 budget aimed at increasing incomes after a two-year austerity programme and boosting defence spending.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said in a speech shortly before the budget was passed by 157 to 122 votes on Friday night that his government would keep public sector expenditure under control and prevent big wage rises.

Government spending was forecast to rise by 21.3 percent to 3,421 billion drachmas (\$27.2 billion) while revenue was to rise 20.3 percent to 2,464 billion drachmas (\$19.5 billion).

Defence spending would be 353 billion drachmas (\$2.8 billion), representing a 23.3 percent rise over the previous year's figure.

When introducing the budget in November, Papandreou said workers in the public and private sectors, whose wages had been frozen since the austerity programme came into force in October 1985, would receive a 4.5 percent rise in January.

But later Papandreou announced that an extra unspecified amount would be paid to workers in January to compensate them for inflation in 1988.

His announcement was made after trade union protests that the 4.5 percent increase was not enough to match a 1986 inflation rate of 16.9 percent and a forecast figure of 16.1 percent in the current year.

National Economy Minister Kostas Simitsis, architect of the austerity programme, resigned over the policy change.

It may be bad news for America

Dollar slide boosts US exports

NEW YORK, Dec 19. (AP) A decline in the value of the US dollar, though not as dramatic as often thought is stimulating sales of American-made products by making them cheaper in comparison to foreign goods.

The faster action on the factory floor is good news for corporate shareholders. Ironically, though, it may be bad news for the nation as a whole.

Why bad news? Because overtime and order lags are evidence of a strait on production capacity. They indicate that the United States has partly "de-industrialised" — that is, lost its ability to make what it needs.

Popping up

Troublesome shortages of material and labour are popping up across the country, in industries ranging from chemicals to paper to personal computers.

With the dollar down, factories have to work harder to keep up with demand from foreigners, as well as from con-

sumers at home who are buying American products rather than imports.

Shortages mean the economy could be on the verge of overheating, causing a sharp rise in prices that would stifle growth and lead to a recession.

Record

Most worrisome, this strain on American industry comes at a time when the United States continues to satisfy much of its consumer demand with a steady diet of imports.

The merchandise trade deficit, the shortfall of what the United States sells to the world compared with what it buys, hit a record \$17.6 billion in October.

Right now, American factories are incapable of both increasing exports and replacing imported goods with ones made at home, in order to erase that deficit. They cannot produce enough steel, cars, semiconductors, textiles and televisions to

meet the demand. Some products, such as videocassette recorders, are not made in the United States at all.

Government figures show American factories overall are running at about 82 percent of capacity as of November, apparently leaving some slack.

But in paper and textiles, for example, utilisation rates are feverish 20-year highs, and they are close to their highs in aluminum and chemicals.

Recession

If the economy falls into a recession in 1988, the shortages, price rises and delivery lags would ease because of a decline in demand. But that would only postpone the inevitable squeeze on capacity.

Building the needed production capacity will require vast expenditures on new plants and equipment. But it is uncertain where the money will come from, given Americans' puny savings rate — 3.5 percent of personal income,

compared with 17 percent in Japan — and the amount of capital tied up in financing the federal budget deficit.

It is also unclear where the workers to run the new factories would come from. The "baby bust" generation is entering the labour force and there may not be enough workers to go around.

Unemployed

Many of the unemployed or under-employed available for production jobs lack the basic skills to work in a world-class factory, as Japanese automakers have been finding in interviews for jobs in their US plants.

In short, the US economy is structured to be a giant vacuum cleaner for imported products, and a simple decline in the value of the dollar will not change that overnight.

"You're not going to the international marketplace and suddenly have windfalls simply because of a falling dollar," said

Robert Simko, executive director of International Technology Group of Los Altos, California.

The optimistic viewpoint is that American companies became "lean and mean" by closing plants and laying off workers in the day it was offering 450 pence (\$8.20) per share of Britoil, which valued the company at about £2.27 billion (\$4.15 billion). Later, BP, said it had raised its holding in Britoil to 29.9 percent from 24.9 percent previously.

BP said it was considering the BP offer and was urging its shareholders to take no action on the bid. BP is battling US oil giant Atlantic Richfield (Arco) over Britoil. Arco seeks up to 49.9 percent of the firm. Following the BP statement, the Treasury said the government would exercise its "golden share" in Britoil — kept when it privatised the company in 1982 — enabling it to veto any board decision it considered unfavourable. "In present circumstances the government intends to use its special share in Britoil to prevent any bidder from gaining control of the Britoil board," it said.

It said if and when a formal offer was made for more than half of Britoil's capital, the company's Articles of Association enabled the government to outvote all the directors on the board.

BP acquired a 14.9 percent stake in Britoil on December 8 and on Thursday raised its stake to 24.9 percent.

World Business Summary

BP to press ahead with Britoil takeover bid

LONDON, Dec 19, (Reuters) British Petroleum Co PLC said yesterday was going ahead with a takeover bid for independent North Sea oil company Britoil despite a government announcement that it would resist any attempt to take control of Britoil's board. BP, the world's third largest oil company, said earlier in the day it was offering 450 pence (\$8.20) per share of Britoil, which valued the company at about £2.27 billion (\$4.15 billion). Later, BP, said it had raised its holding in Britoil to 29.9 percent from 24.9 percent previously.

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US spending power expires as talks in Congress bog down

WASHINGTON, Dec 19, (Reuters) The US government technically went broke today, unable to spend money as congressional talks on a massive spending bill bogged down over new funding for Nicaraguan rebels. A stopgap law permitting spending expired a stroke after midnight, after House and Senate negotiators deadlocked over a \$600 billion bill that would continue spending authority for most government programmes through September. That record spending measure also would implement an accord to cut the federal budget deficit. "We are at a stalemate of momentous proportions," Senator Daniel Inouye, a Hawaii Democrat and key negotiator, said late last night.

President Reagan yesterday had threatened to veto the bill if it did not contain "adequate" aid for the Nicaraguan rebels, known as Contras. The Senate wants to provide \$9 million in non-military aid and \$6 million to air drop military equipment. The House wants to provide only \$5.5 million in food, shelter and clothing, although they would permit air drops of previously authorised weapons only until December 31.

UK jobless rate drops

LONDON, Dec 19, (Kunia) Britain's unemployment rate has dropped to its lowest level for over five years, official figures revealed yesterday.

The number of unemployed in the UK fell to 2,685,583 in November, representing 9.5 percent of the workforce.

An upturn in the British economy and extra government help for the jobless have helped to cut the seasonally adjusted adult unemployment total by a record half a million over the past 12 months, the figures showed



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Market near the end of a mixed year

NEW YORK, Dec 19. (AP) Thanks to its rally of the past two weeks, the stock market has a good shot at closing out 1987 with a net gain despite the crash in October.

With eight trading days left on the plus side, it would be the index's sixth consecutive annual gain, setting a record that would mark the hull market that evidently expired last summer.

Successful traders say that decisions made during the day on the basis of news item or price shift are almost always disastrous. Better to decide on your strategy then wait for a favourable moment to put it into operation.

Profits

4) Take a break. If you are trading every day the minutiae of the market will inevitably begin to cloud your judgement. Take time off, step back and try to look

mutual fund shares through the wrenching swings of the past few months. Still, it helps provide a longer-term perspective on what has happened.

If the S and P 500 finishes the year on the plus side, it would be the index's sixth consecutive annual gain, setting a record that would mark the hull market that evidently expired last summer.

Cyclical declines in equities generally do not bottom until the economy is in recession and US consumption is weakening," said Charles Clough, chief investment strategist at Merrill Lynch.

Even if it was enjoying nothing more than a "bear market rally," the stock market put on an upbeat show to the past week.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 108.26 points to 1,975.30, surpassing the previous weekly jump of 100.30 points the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 7.35 to 139.15; the American

Stock Exchange market value index increased 4.92 to 256.10, and the Nasdaq Composite index for the over-the-counter market jumped 24.34 to 326.91.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 212.90 million shares a day, up from 189.21 million in the previous week.

Recover

Many analysts say it is unreasonable to expect confidence to recover quickly after a harrowing experience like the crash in October.

Yet there are some observers who suggest the bear market will prove to be as short as it has been vicious.

Edward Yardeo, economist at Prudential-Bache Securities, professes "unashamed optimism" about prospects for both the economy and the stock market next year.

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FROM BOMBAY

Kuwait's overseas investment strategy praised

BONN, Dec 19. (Kuna): Kuwaiti investments in the West German markets had not considerably lost as a result of the recent crisis in world stock markets, according to a banking executive here.

Though profits and interests from Kuwaiti stocks and other financial investments in the Federal Republic are no higher than before the "Black Monday," last October 19, the expert said stocks and bonds owned by Kuwait had been bought at reasonable prices in the past.

The director of economy and commerce in the "Kommerz Bank," Hans Orlische Ramm, praised, in an exclusive interview with Kuna, Kuwait's "wise and shrewd" foreign investments policy.

Reasonable

He said Kuwait invested a reasonable share of its oil revenues abroad to diversify sources of income, develop its economic base and infrastructure and

help transfer of technology from industrialised countries.

As example, the financial expert cited shares bought by Kuwait in the West German chemical firm Hoechst which helped to develop the Kuwaiti petrochemical industries sector and the processing of oils since the said German company enjoys an old reputation and experience in this field," he explained.

Stakes

He also cited Kuwait's acquisition of stakes in such reputed and established German firms as Daimler-Benz Automakers, "Mannes" and "Krupp" iron and steel industry.

Kuwait has walked out of the traditional "dollar" zone and invested in other hard currency areas of the Deutschmark and the Swiss franc, Ramm said, adding that the Federal Republic became

one of the principal areas for Kuwaiti investments abroad.

He indicated success of Kuwait's policy of diversifying sources and currencies of its investment portfolios, particularly in respect of the German mark whose exchange rate rose by some 50 per cent against the US dollar.

Losses

Asked if other oil-exporting countries had experienced great losses as a result of the crash in world stock prices, the expert pointed out that most of these states had invested in the purchase of bonds at fixed interest rates whose prices started to pick up since last October 19.

Eventually, he said, losses sustained by these countries in world stock markets remain "limited."

The German financial expert advised caution in offering stocks for sale at

present where prices are low and the dollars exchange rate continues to fluctuate in world markets.

Surging

In comparison, Ramm stated that the Deutschmark appears to be surging as a strong world currency in the years to come according to world economic indications.

A strong German currency will prove "attractive" for foreign investors, the expert said and predicted that stock prices will rebound in the short term of the German market.

He strongly advised a careful study of the various economic sectors before taking the decision of buying new stakes or committing new funds but, nonetheless, tipped the chemical industry as potentially prosperous and continuously advancing despite the recent crash in world stock and financial markets.

Pennzoil and Texaco settle dispute

NEW YORK, Dec 19. (Reuter): Pennzoil and Texaco said today that they had reached an agreement under which Texaco will pay Pennzoil \$3 billion to settle their \$10.3 billion legal battle over the takeover of Getty Oil.

A Pennzoil spokesman said the company signed the agreement some time after midnight. A Texaco attorney said company officials signed the document later in the morning, finalising the accord.

The settlement, the biggest in history, will end a four-year legal battle which began when both oil companies tried to acquire the Getty Oil Co.

A Texas jury ruled in November 1985 that Texaco had illegally interfered with a tentative agreement for Pennzoil to purchase a stake in Getty.

Texaco filed for bankruptcy after a court ruled that it must post a bond equal to the size of the judgement plus interest.

Talks

Sources close to the talks said the settlement was reached after representatives of Texaco's shareholders and creditors — which must approve any final settlement — backed off on certain key demands that Texaco had considered unacceptable.

They said these involved the tax implications of Texaco's payment and differences over whether interest should be paid in addition to the \$3 billion.

The Pennzoil-Texaco dispute began on January 3, 1984, when Pennzoil's board endorsed a memorandum of agreement to buy 43 per cent of Getty Oil for \$3.3 billion, an agreement Pennzoil said was a binding contract.

Two days later, Texaco's board agreed to pursue its own

takeover of Getty after Texaco chairman Alfred DeCrane was told by a Getty investment banker that papers for its merger with Pennzoil had not yet been signed.

By January 9, 1984, Getty's board agreed to accept Texaco's offer. A month later, Pennzoil sued Texaco in Houston for interfering with its pact to buy Getty.

In November 1985 a Texas jury ruled in favour of Pennzoil with the largest damage award in history, \$10.35 billion plus interest. Texaco's net worth at the time was \$13.5 billion.

Committee calls for controls on spending

Legislators flay Jordan's budget

AMMAN, Dec 19. (Reuter): Legislators criticised Jordan's 1988 draft budget for failing to curb spending and they warned the government that its debts were ballooning out of control.

The Finance Committee of the Lower House of Parliament said in a report to a special budget session that the cost of servicing Jordan's foreign and domestic debt was a heavy burden.

"We have reached a situation that is difficult to overcome," said the report.

Debt

The budget projects foreign debt payments of 177 million dinars (\$53.9 million) in 1988, compared with 108 million dinars (\$32.9 million) in 1987.

The report said this was a lot compared with the size of the budget, which forecasts expenditure of 1.07 billion dinars (\$3.21 billion) in 1988, up 6.6 per cent on this year.

The budget projects a deficit of 6.9 million dinars (\$200 million)



Ivan Boesky

one chapter in Wall Street biggest insider trading scandal, but appeared to have opened others.

Silverman said the financier had told authorities of violations they had not previously known about by five major brokerage houses and 14 individuals.

He gave no details on the violations and named no names. Officials declined comment on Silverman's claim.

Boesky faced a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a \$250,000 fine for conspiring to make false statements to the government.

He has already agreed to pay \$100 million to settle civil charges brought by the Securities and

Exchange Commission (Sec).

Lasker did not impose a fine.

Silverman said Boesky did not deserve more than two years in prison.

Uncovered

Prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani, whose office uncovered the insider trading scandal, called the sentence "much heavier than that given to the vast number of people convicted in federal court. It was well deserved and well balanced.

"Now we have established a general rule if you are convicted of insider trading, you will go to prison," he added at a news conference.

Giuliani declined comment on Silverman's assertion that Boesky had disclosed wrongdoing by five major securities firms, but said investigations were continuing.

Cooperation

Silverman said Boesky's cooperation had yielded "strange dividends" and strengthened the case against others.

But he said the irony of the case was that his cooperation "basically fuelled public hatred for Boesky."

Lasker could have sentenced Boesky to five years in jail but gave him only three because of the financier's extensive cooperation with federal authorities.

"Some kind of message must be sent to the business community," he said.

Under federal law, the SEC can file civil charges for wrongdoing on Wall Street, while any criminal charges are filed by the Justice Department.

Charges

At that time it was also disclosed he had agreed to plead guilty to one criminal charge.

Under federal law, the SEC

can file civil charges for wrong-

doing on Wall Street, while any

criminal charges are filed by the

Justice Department.

Settlement

The report noted that the Gross National Product (GNP) grew by about three per cent in 1987 despite difficult regional and world conditions.

It said the currency and local prices were stable, bank deposits had risen, trade volume on Amman's financial market had increased, the trade deficit had narrowed for the fourth consecutive year and Jordan had met its financial dues on time.

Strides

Jordan had made great strides in development but should now stress self-reliance and balance spending and resources, the report said.

Bankers and economists interviewed by Reuters said the budget contained few surprises, but they echoed the committee's concern about its spending, borrowing and revenue forecasts.

The market was expecting such a budget so it won't have a big effect on the business environment," said Basil Jarash, managing director of Jor-

dan Investment and Finance Corporation. "Jordan will go on having moderate economic activity in 1988."

Optimistic

"We don't know if the govern-

ment's estimates are realistic or

optimistic," the report said.

The budget shows foreign aid jumping to 225 million dinars (\$68.5 million) from 183 million (\$55.7 million) budgeted for 1987. Economist Fahed Al Fanek told Reuters actual receipts were nearer 145 million dinars (\$44.1 million).

The Finance Committee also criticised loss-making projects and public corporations. "No officials have been held to account for the heavy losses they have incurred for Jordan's economy ... due to mistakes or mismanagement," it said.

Commercial Bank of Kuwait's weekly market review

Short-term KD rates firm

to a final DM 1.635, slightly lower than last week.

Sterling

Sterling was subject to sharp swings in value, both as a result of the changing fortune of the dollar and the market's renewed perception of the pound as a petro-currency. The effect of softer oil prices was tempered by Bank of England purchases of sterling. Two pence lower at DM 2.7785, the UK unit was 1-1/2 per cent lower at \$1.8235.

Japanese yen

The Japanese yen pushed further ahead, gaining on all fronts. Post World War Two record highs were set almost everyday, until profit-taking brought the currency back to a closing yen 127.05, 1 per cent higher than last Friday.

Gold

The week started with a gold rally which took prices briefly over the 500 level. However, lack of follow-through buying and weaker oil prices inspired profit-taking. Eventually, sell stops were triggered pushing prices down to the \$471.50-472.00 area, where good support emerged due to book squaring ahead of next week's Xmas holidays. Gold ended the week at \$480.00 silver at \$6.78.

Deutsche mark

The Deutsche mark advanced once more as bearishness on the US dollar prevailed. This lasted until Friday, when a combination of rumours and statements combined to reverse this trend, and bring the West German currency

Euro currency interest rates in percentage

(Indicative) Dec 19, 1987

	\$	Stg	DM	J.Y.
1 month	8-1/4 - 8-1/8	8-13/16 - 8-1/16	3-13/16 - 4-1/16	4-11/16 - 4-11/16
2 months	8-1/16 - 7-15/16	8-3/4 - 8-5/8	3-3/4 - 3-5/8	4-9/16 - 4-7/16
3 months	8 - 7-7/8	8-15/16 - 8-13/16	3-3/4 - 3-5/8	4-9/16 - 4-7/16
6 months	8 - 7-7/8	9-3/16 - 9-1/16	3-3/4 - 3-5/8	4-9/16 - 4-7/16
12 months	8-3/16 - 8-1/16	9-9/16 - 9-7/16	3-7/8 - 3-3/4	4-9/16 - 4-7/16

help transfer of technology from industrialised countries.

As example, the financial expert cited shares bought by Kuwait in the West German chemical firm Hoechst which helped to develop the Kuwaiti petrochemical industries sector and the processing of oils since the said German company enjoys an old reputation and experience in this field," he explained.

Stakes

He also cited Kuwait's acquisition of stakes in such reputed and established German firms as Daimler-Benz Automakers, "Mannes" and "Krupp" iron and steel industry.

Kuwait has walked out of the traditional "dollar" zone and invested in other hard currency areas of the Deutschmark and the Swiss franc, Ramm said, adding that the Federal Republic became

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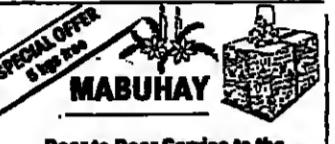
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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Chris Evert

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec 19. (AP): Two-time champion Chris Evert has decided to try to resurrect her ailing tennis career in the \$1.9 million Australian Open championship at the New National Tennis Centre next month.

WBA crown

CARTAGENA, Colombia, Dec 19. (Reuter): Colombian Fidel Bassa kept his world WBA flyweight boxing crown with an easy points victory over the Dominican Republic's Felix Martínez over 12 rounds last night.

Italian League

MILAN, Dec 19. (Reuter): The Italian League yesterday upheld a decision to reverse a win by First Division club Juventus last month because of a firework incident.

Monaco win

MONACO, Dec 19. (Reuter): Monaco ensured they remained on top of the French Soccer Championship after their final match before the winter break when they beat Paris St Germain 2-1 yesterday.

Rising star

KRAJSKA GORA, Yugoslavia, Dec 19. (AP): Austria's rising star Helmut Moyer today won his first World Cup victory ever in a giant slalom marred by dropouts of several favourites, including Italy's new star Alberto Tomba.

World records

ANTALYA, Turkey, Dec 19. (Reuter): Turkish weightlifter Naim Suleymanoglu, who defected from Bulgaria a year ago, broke three world records in the 60-kilo class today, the Anatolian news agency said.

Cup slalom

PANCAVALLO, Italy, Dec 19. (AP): West Germany's Christa Kinscherf ended an eight-year drought today by capturing a women's World Cup slalom in this northern Italian resort.

Ski race

DAVOS, Switzerland, Dec 19. (AP): Gunde Swan of Sweden pushed through driving rain and soft snow to win a 15-kilometre men's cross country ski race today and take the lead in the season's World Cup standings after three events.

Team golf

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica, Dec 19. (Reuter): Americans Butch Baird and Chris Johnson carded seven birdies toward a one-stroke lead after the first round of the \$850,000 Sandy Bay Championship team golf tournament yesterday.

Top boxer

MEXICO CITY, Dec 19. (Reuter): The World Boxing Council (WBC) yesterday named Canadian Don Lalone its December Boxer of the Month for having conquered the light heavyweight title against American Eddie Davis on November 27.

\$10 million offer

NEW YORK, Dec 19. (Reuter): Pitcher Dave Righetti rejected late on Thursday a \$10 million offer from the Tokyo Giants that would have made him the highest player in team sports history.

America's Cup

LONDON, Dec 19. (Reuter): The head of Britain's bid for the America's Cup, Peter de Savary, confirmed yesterday there was full backing for a challenge series despite what he described as "deliberate misinformation" from the trophy holders.

Indoor hockey

BAD NEUENAUER, West Germany, Dec 19. (Reuter): West Germany, favourites to retain the title they have held for more than a decade, trounced France 8-1 in the opening match of the women's European Indoor Hockey Championship yesterday.

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15 COUNTRIES TAKING PART

Asian Boxing Championship opens

By Nader Ahmed

THE 13th Asian Boxing Championship opened in Kuwait yesterday under the patronage of Sheikh Jaber Al Ali Sabah, who deputised the chairman of the Olympic Council of Asia, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, to attend the event on his behalf.

The championship, which is being held at the Kuwait Handball Federation Hall in Duriya, will continue until Dec 24.

Included

The opening ceremony was attended by a large number of officials, which included the president of the Kuwait Boxing Federation — Sheikh Mubarak Jaber Al Ali, the president of the International Boxing Federation — Awar Choudhry, the secretary-general of the International Boxing Federation — Kari Hans and the ambassadors of Pakistan, Indonesia, South Korea, China, Iraq and Thailand.

The ceremony began with the playing of the national anthem followed by march past of the



Teams lined-up at the opening ceremony.

participating teams and the opening address by the organising committee.

In his speech, Sheikh Muharrik welcomed the participants and wished them success. Anwar Choudhry praised the organising committee for their efforts.

The championship was then declared open by Sheikh Fahd.

This was followed by folk dances

by school students.

After the opening ceremony Sheikh Fahd thanked Sheikh Jaber Al Ali for patronising such important events. He said that such sports events reflect the re-emergence of Kuwait's sports movement. He also praised the Kuwait Boxing Federation for the preparations they made for the championship.

A total of fifteen countries are



Students perform a folk dance.

taking part in the championship and the draw for the events was held in the presence of all their representatives last night. The draw was held under the supervision of the Asian Federatiooo.

The countries taking part are: Mongolia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, South Korea, Japan, Iraq, Yemen, Syria, Oman, China and Kuwait.

Representatives of Bangladesh and Lebanon had not arrived in Kuwait until late in the night.

It has been decided that a total of 88 bouts would be held. 18 bouts each were scheduled for yesterday and today, 20 each will be held on the third and fourth days. Wednesday is a rest day and 12 bouts will be held on the last day — Thursday.

England face one last battle with Qadir

KARACHI, Dec 19. (Reuter): England skipper Mike Gatting, resigned to defeat in the stricken series against Pakistan, faces one more major hurdle when the final Test continues tomorrow.

One down in the three-match series, Gatting sees a draw as the most likely prospect — unless the bowler he describes as "the man with the golden gun" weaves another magic spell over England's batsmen.

Haul

The killer is Abdul Qadir, the spinner who already has a series haul of 25 wickets at a cost of just 13.56 runs apiece.

But it was also Qadir the batsman who yesterday stymied England's hopes of a face-saving victory after they had looked poised for a healthy first innings lead.

Qadir, battoning at number nine, lashed four sixes and six fours in a Test career best 61 to take Pakistan to 345 for eight in reply to England's first innings 294 — a lead of 51.

"A draw is the only result I can see unless something dramatic happens," said Gatting during today's rest day.

"It's a goodish pitch to bat on if you get in, as tail-enders on both sides have already shown."

Qadir has taunted and teased England throughout the one-day World Cup tournament and the current Test series and sometime on Monday will test them for a final time. Another spell of wizardry from the man who took five wickets in the first innings could see the weary travellers fending off a second defeat in the final two days.

"Abdul is the man with the golden gun as far as this series is concerned," admitted Gatting, who has vowed never to play here again following the bitter controversy over unpairing which threatened to cause the tour to be called off.



MRAN QADIR SPORTS

Qadir: 'the man with the golden gun'

But before England face that problem they have to end Pakistan's first innings and the stoical resistance of Asim Malik.

Playing to only his second Test, Asim was just nice runs from the goal of a maiden century when play ended yesterday.

He played a dominant match saving role as Pakistan recovered from 146 for six to move from threatened defeat into a possible match-winning position.

Asim showed remarkable confidence in steering Pakistan to safety, first in a partnership of 76 with Wasim Akram, who made 37, and then another of 94 with Qadir.

Pakistan are handicapped by a strained groin which will prevent paceman Wasim from bowling but that will give little comfort to battle-weary England as they face one final joust with Qadir.

Kasparov retains crown

SEVILLE, Spain, Dec 19. (UPI): Chess champion Garry Kasparov stepped back from the edge of defeat today to retain the world chess crown in a dramatic final game against challenger Anatoly Karpov.

Kasparov's win in the last of the 24 games in the World Chess Championship evened the score at 12-12 but, as defender, he remains champion for the next three years.

Remained

Fans burst into deafening applause at the end of the game while the two Soviet grandmasters remained at the board analysing their last moves.

Faced with inevitable defeat, Karpov toppled his king in the 64th move to indicate his resignation. The loss dashed his eleventh-hour hopes of recapturing the crown he held for ten years and lost to Kasparov in 1985.

Kasparov had to play a make-or-break game to keep the title after Karpov won their next-to-last game Thursday to take the

lead with a score of 12-11.

With the final tied score, the two rivals will split the prize money of Swiss francs 2.86 million (\$2.17 million). A victory on points would have given the winner Swiss francs 1.79 (\$1.35 million).

"Any move now is only a last gasp before the inevitable," said Spanish grandmaster Ricardo Calvo, commenting on the tense final moments of the decisive game.

Analysts said the game, the last in the tournament which has been dubbed the 'ten week war,' was one of the most dramatic in the history of chess.

The game resumed today after play was adjourned Friday night in the 42nd move with a queen-pawn advantage and a slight positional edge for Kasparov.

Chess fever has gripped the southern city of Seville since the challenger forged ahead in the penultimate game.

Seats at the sumptuous Lope de Vega theatre, the playing hall of the tournament, were sold out.

season

such an expensive vehicle in the contest, Kaaki replied, "I happened to have one — four io fact, which I use for hunting. I thought it would be a good opportunity to test some new shock absorbers," he said. The jeep was not only the most expensive and most powerful vehicle, but also the most luxurious, with seats that wouldn't have been out of place in a top of the market car. The team also travelled in style. They took the entire 12th floor of the Gulf Hotel, and flew in a team of mechanics from the Lamborghini factory in Italy.

An "anoymous" donor presented a \$2000 prize to the winner of the Bahrain event; it was a truly magnanimous gesture from a new entrant whose enthusiasm for his new found sport was thoroughly charming. Saeed Al Hajri said that he was impressed with the Challenge, and confessed to being disappointed at not being allowed to enter. His new English and Arabic magazine, Al Syara, awarded a further prize to Al Mousawi — a trip to the Acropolis Rally as spectators.

Marlboro Desert Challenge points, after two rounds:

1. Ahmed Al Hilal - Kuwait - Mitsubishi Pajero 36 points
2. Tareq Alyan - Kuwait - Daihatsu Rocky 31 points
3. Eid Falah - Kuwait - Range Rover 29 points
4. Abbas Al Mousawi - Qatar - Range Rover 22 points
5. Tareq Al Wazzan - Kuwait - Range Rover 20 points
6. Ibrahim Matter - Bahrain - Mitsubishi Pajero 16 points
7. Awad Al Wadani - Kuwait - Isuzu Trooper 16 points
8. Mohd Al Husseini - Kuwait - Toyota Land Cruiser 11 points
9. Samir Kazmi - Saudi - Lamborghini Cheetah 10 points
10. K. Ramadan - Bahrain - International Scout 8 points



Al Mousawi: realistic victory



Al Wazzan: high speed driving



Lamborghini Cheetah: unlikely contender

and sixth places in the Challenge, Tareq Alyan is standing second in the driver's Championship, with wife Khulood occupying 3rd place in the co-drivers challenge, behind Fahed Al Rashid, and Khalid Khalifa who currently have equal points. She said that it was "a very nice rally. I liked it, and found it interesting." The pair, in their relatively low powered BP/Denim sponsored Daihatsu Rocky find themselves in the hitherto unlikely position of being strong contenders to win the Challenge. "We had excellent service and support from Daihatsu in Bahrain,"

commented Alyan.

As the Marlboro Desert Challenge points now stand, 6 Kuwaitis are in the top eight positions. This is a welcome return to the International Rally scene for Kuwait, and will hopefully continue next year.

Opportunity

One of the unluckiest contenders for the event was a 450hp Lamborghini jeep. Samir Kaaki, of Saudi Arabia had never driven in a rally before, but has dreams of perhaps entering the Pharaohs rally, or the Paris Dakar rally in the future. He brought Mamoud Khayat, an ex-Middle East

Group A Champion, with him as co-driver.

Khayat told the Arab Times that he had never sat in the co-driver's seat before. "He's not a co-driver," interrupted Kaaki. "He's more of a teacher."

If so, Khayat was pleased with his pupil's progress. "He really is learning very fast," he said. Kaaki produced one of the fastest stage times, but otherwise the heavy jeep didn't seem to give him too much advantage. However the result was splendid for a novice driver, and he has now decided to go on to the Jordan event.

Asked why he chose to enter

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SPORTS

Taylor and
Cruse hold up
New Zealand

DEVONPORT, Tasmania, Dec 19. (Reuter): Defiant batting by Mick Taylor and Bruce Cruse rescued Tasmania on the second day of their four-day match against New Zealand today.

They put on 72 in 78 minutes in an unbroken fifth wicket stand to take Tasmania to 170 for four at the close in reply to New Zealand's first innings 410 to seven declared.

Taylor was undefeated on 55 and Cruse 32.

They came together after Tasmania had slumped to 98 for four with left-arm spinner Evan Gray taking the wickets of Test opener David Boon for 44 and Danny Buckingham for five.

Earlier Ian Smith, unbeaten on 30 overnight, took his score to 62 before he was bowled as New Zealand added a further 83 runs before declaring.

The visitors suffered one setback when tailender Danny Morrison retired hurt after being struck in the mouth by a sharply rising ball from Tim Bower.

But Morrison had recovered sufficiently to take the new ball when Tasmania began their innings.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings (overnight 327 for six)
J. Wright c Cooley b Faulkner ... 32
P. Horne c Soule b Faulkner 125
A. Jones c Soule b Faulkner ... 14
K. Rutherford st Soule b Cruse ... 34
J. Crowe run out 36
D. Patel c Soule b Hughes 29
E. Gray not out 24
I. Smith b Bower 62
R. Morrison ret. hurt 5
W. Watson not out 27
Extras (lb-10 nb-10) 22
Total (for seven wickets declared) 410
Wicketfall: 1-61 2-79 3-170 4-248
Bowling: Cooley 26-4-96-0 (10 nb), Bower 31-4-98-1, Faulkner 33-11-77, Cruse 17-1-68-1, Hughes 14-2-59-1.

TASMANIA first innings
D. Boon lbw b Gray 44
N. Jelich c Wright b Chatfield 0
G. Hughes c Wright b Watson 27
M. Taylor not out 55
D. Buckingham b Gray 5
B. Cruse not out 32
Extras (lb-3 nb-4) 7
Total (for four wickets) 170
Wicketfall: 1-42 2-63 3-84 4-98
Bowling: Morrison 11-0-46-0, Chatfield 18-7-35-1, Watson 12-1-46-1 (4 nb), Gray 15-7-28-2, Patel 4-0-12-0.

Sheffield Shield

SYDNEY, Dec 19. (Reuter): Scores on the second day of the two four-day Sheffield Shield cricket matches today:

In Sydney: New South Wales 438 for nine declared (Steve Waugh 170, Mark Waugh 114 not out, Tony Doedema five for 114); Victoria 88 for four (Michael Whitney three for 41).

In Brisbane: Western Australia 217; Queensland 318 (Robbie Kerr 102, Ian Botham 53, Chris Matthews three for 69, Terry Alderman three for 70).

Militante sweeps the board

Winners pictured with other officials (from left): Mandy Casonete, Lando Caburo, Victory Paras, Sarah Macarimbang, Baby Militante, Salch Abughosh and Manny Inserto.

BABY MILITANTE, a Filipina, stole the show in the Pre-Christmas Bowling Tournament by winning all the three games at the Club 300 Silver Tower on Thursday and Friday.

Militante, newcomer to the game, posted a score of 162 in the Moonlight Game, 167 in the Nine-pin Strike and 55 in the

DOUBLES DEFEAT SEALS INDIA'S FATE**Sweden score 4th Davis Cup triumph**

Wilander: In action against Ramesh on Friday. (Reuter radiophoto)

GOTHENBURG, Sweden, Dec 19. (Reuter): Sweden reinforced their status as the most powerful force in men's tennis by regaining the Davis Cup today. It was the fourth time they had won the trophy.

Having captured both opening singles against India yesterday for the total loss of just 15 games, the Swedes ended any lingering hopes of an Indian fairytale recovery when Joakin Nystrom and Mats Wilander beat Anand and Vijay Amritraj 6-2 6-1 6-2.

Pressed

The Nystrom-Wilander combination, the 1986 Wimbledon champions, were pressed into action when Stefan Edberg had to pull out of the doubles partnership with Anders Jarryd because of an ankle injury.

Wilander had crushed Indian number one Ramesh Krishnan 6-4 6-1 6-3 in the opening singles and Sweden had entered the second day of the 76th Davis Cup final with a 2-0 lead after Jarryd routed Vijay Amritraj 6-3 6-3 6-1 last night.

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The one hour 55 minute doubles followed a predictably similar pattern as the two singles with the Amritraj brothers, combined age 69, supplying the tennis artistry and the Swedes, combined age 47, supplying most of the winners.

Anand Amritraj, in particular, appeared out of his depth at times and he discovered the world of tennis has changed dramatically since he was a regular competitor on the circuit in the 1970s.

Semi-refined for the past two years, Anand Amritraj's last recorded computer ranking in 1985 was 792nd, his powers have waned since then.

The older of the two brothers at 35, his gentle-paced serve is not a tennis weapon in the recognised sense, merely a way of starting each rally.

Nystrom and Wilander, who possess two of the finest service returns in the modern game, treated the Indian's serve with complete disdain and broke him twice in the first set which they raced through in 29 minutes.

Wilander and Nystrom, whose only previous doubles match in a Davis Cup final was in 1985 when Sweden beat West Germany 3-2 in Munich, outplayed the Indians in the last two sets, winning 12 out of 15 games.

The steady Swedes were only broken once each. That was early in the second set and gave the veteran Indian team a 3-1 lead.

Nystrom, who has only played two matches in the past month and lost them both, was broken at love in the fourth game.

Except for that, he did not show any signs of rustiness.

Serve

Anand Amritraj did. At 35 the oldest player on the Indian team, he dropped his serve five times in the two-hour match.

Vijay Amritraj, who has been playing doubles for 18 years with his big brother, lost his serve twice.

It was the second time in three years that Sweden prevailed on indoor clay in the Scandinavium arena. The Swedes turned back the United States 4-1 in 1984.

Foreman wins again

LAS VEGAS, Dec 19. (Reuter): Former world heavyweight champion George Foreman gave his comeback efforts a boost yesterday when he stopped fellow-American Rocky Sekorski in the third round of their non-title bout.

Foreman, who turns 40 next month, bludgeoned the unheralded Sekorski into submission at 2:45 of the third.

Positively

"I believe I have more power than ever," said Foreman, who, after a 10-year layoff, has won all five of his recent fights by knockout.

Foreman's victory now has him thinking of regaining the title he lost to Muhammad Ali in 1974.



Philadelphia's Cliff Robinson (left) uses his elbow to keep San Antonio's Frank Brickowski away as he goes in for a shot in a NBA game on Thursday.

Thomas takes Pistons to win over Mavericks

NEW YORK, Dec 19. (AP): Steve Alford may have learned a lesson about challenging NBA superstars.

The Dallas Rookie, ribbing fellow Indiana alumnus Isiah Thomas about his long-distance shooting ability, watched helplessly last night as Thomas hit five 3-point shots in the first 15 minutes, lifting the Detroit Pistons to a 117-112 victory over the Mavericks.

"Alford told me the other day that I couldn't hit them," Thomas said. "So I kind of wanted to prove him wrong."

Thomas was 5-for-7 from 3-point range and scored 20 of his 24 points in the first half as the Pistons took a 60-47 lead.

Thomas set a team record for 3-point goals in a half and Adrian Dantley finished with 28 points as the Pistons won for the 15th time in 20 games. They have the best record in the NBA.

Dallas' Mark Aguirre also was 5-for-7 on 3-pointers as he led all scorers with 35 points.

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Cleveland 103, New Jersey 94; Indiana 121, Utah 97; San Antonio 133, Denver 114; Atlanta 94, Milwaukee 87; and Portland 129, Phoenix 114.

Craig Ehlo scored 19 points as Cleveland scored seven consecutive points in the final minute to clinch its victory over New Jersey.

Berry scored a career-high 30 points and Frank Brickowski added 23 points and 15 rebounds against Denver.

Alex English had a season-high 37 points for the Nuggets, while Johnny Dawkins came back from an ankle injury to score 20 for the Spurs.

Hawks 94, Bucks 87.

Atlanta won its fourth straight game as Dominique Wilkins scored 23 points and reserves John Battle had 12 of his 22 in the fourth quarter at Milwaukee.

Pacers 121, Jazz 97.

Indiana routed Utah and broke a three-game losing streak. Chuck Person had 22 points for the Pacers and John Long chipped in 20.

Utah was led by Karl Malone with 20 points.

Trail Blazers 129, Suns 114.

Portland beat Phoenix for the fourth consecutive time this season as Clyde Drexler scored 30 points and Kiki Vandeweghe, playing just his third game in the last month, added 23.

The Suns, who have lost four straight, were led by Larry Nance with 26 points and 14 rebounds.

Cavaliers 103, Nuggets 114.

Craig Ehlo scored 19 points as Cleveland scored seven consecutive points in the final minute to clinch its victory over New Jersey.

Evergreen rout Hawks

EVERGREEN sent Hawks reeling out of the Pat Keely Trophy, organised by the Huhara Cricketers, with a five-wicket victory over the wicket-takers.

Evergreen, facing a relatively easy target, opened through Anjum and Khalid but both were back in the pavilion after scoring 14 and 11 runs respectively. Although Evergreen lost two more quick wickets, Razzak was there to assert his authority and put the result beyond doubt. When Evergreen overtook Hawks' total in the 19th over, Razzak was still at the wicket on 64 runs which included eight boundaries.

Farooque, first in association with Sarwar and then Waheed, took Hawks past the three-figure mark and brought some respectability to their total.

When the time was called by the umpires at the end of 22 overs, Hawks total stood at 116 six with Farooque unbeaten on 49. He hit two sixes and two fours, Shivi (16), Sarwar (12) and Waheed (24) were the only other batsmen who could get into double figures.

For Evergreen, Ashraf Rana (three for 31), G. Haider (one for 23) and Shaikat (two for 25) were the wicket-takers.

Hawks, after winning the toss, batted first and had to face some very hostile bowling from Ashraf Rana and G. Haider who reduced them to 29 for four in six overs.

Farooque, first in association with Sarwar and then Waheed, took Hawks past the three-figure mark and brought some respectability to their total.

G. Haider contributed 14 while giving some support to Razzak. For Hawks, Sohail was the most successful bowler with three wickets for 22 runs. Nadeem and Waheed also chipped in with one wicket each.

Bowling**Valenzuela outclass Quezon City**

VALENZUELA put in an excellent performance in the Filipino Non-pro Bowling League on Friday, at the Club 300 Silver Tower, on their way to a 4-0 victory over Quezon City.

The Valenzuela team was based on Edwin Nepomuceno, Jojo Medrano, P.J. Ohlens, Arleen Bonecillo, Joel Bonecillo, Gina Nepomuceno, Rolly Gallcha and Ernie Landriño.

Manny Inserto, of Manila, grossed 236 pinsfall to set a new record in the Men's High Game beating the old record of 233. Lando Caburo, also of Manila, dominated the Men's High Series with a score of 591.

In the women's section, Tonette Arizabal of Manila took the High Game with a score of 196 while Arleen Bonecillo of the Valenzuela team captured the High Series Game with a total score of 519.

In the other matches: Caloocan City trounced Paranaque 4-0; Pasay City edged Las Pinas 3-1; Pasigdowned Navotas 4-0. Manila outclassed Makati-GMBH 3-1 and Malabon cruised Mandaluyog 4-0.

The League is being sponsored by the Mabuhay Restaurant.

Individuals standings:

Men's High Game: 1) Manny Inserto - 236, 2) Nonoy Marama, Mandaluyong - 234.

Women's High Game: 1) Tonette Arizabal - 196, 2) Gloria Estardane, Pasay City - 176.

Men's High Series: 1) Lando Caburo - 591, 2) Nonoy Marama - 576.

Women's High Series: 1) Arleen Bonecillo, Valenzuela - 519, 2) Tonette Arizabal - 491.

Men's High Average: 1) Lando Caburo - 197, 2) Nonoy Marama - 192.

Women's High Average: 1) Arleen Bonecillo - 173, 2) Tonette Arizabal - 163.

200 Club Members: Manny Inserto, Manila - 234, Nonoy Marama - 234, Lando Caburo - 217, Mel Cervera, Malabon - 205, Roger Sabado, Caloocan City - 203, George Gaerlan, Makati-GMBH - 202, Jesus Venustus, Las Pinas - 200.

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